Stourbridge



Thursday, February 18, 2016

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B

Report by Rob Cox

THREE men involved in a conspiracy to supply addicts across the Black Country have been jailed for a

total of nearly 11 years.

For six months Dishon Cassell and Kareem White fueled addiction by

Kareem White fueled addiction by supplying heroin and crack cocaine. The class A drugs were cut, packaged and distributed from a home in Rugeley Close, Tipton, where Cassell's girlfriend was living.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard the third man, Theo White, had only been involved on October 15 last year, the day the enterprise fell apart and the three were arrested.

Cassell, of Belle Vale, Cradley, was handed a four-and-a-half year sentence, while Kareem White, of Camden Street, Hockley, was sentenced to three years and nine months. Theo White, of Rubery Drive, Rowley Regis, will serve a two-and-a-half year sentence. They were sentenced last week having admitted conspiracy to supply heroin and crack cocaine.

Undercover

Ms Samantha Powis, prosecuting, told the court the conspiracy was foiled by an undercover police operation centred on the Tipton property and two cars. All three men were arrested on October 15 last year near Hagley Road, Halesowen.

In the Ford Fiesta police found 10 wraps of beroin a rock of cocaine and two mobile

In the Ford Flesta police found 10 wraps of heroin, a rock of cocaine and two mobile phones. From the Audi, five phones and £1,690 in cash was recovered. Subsequent searches uncovered heroin worth £2,000 at the Tipton home, alongside cocaine, weighing scales and £1,000 cash.

Ms Powis said analysis of the phones showed Ms rowis san analysis of the phones showed large amounts of contact between Cassell, aged 24, and Kareem White, 21. She told the court: "Cassell was directing the operation in a meaningful role and was giving Kareem White instructions and post codes. They were talking about supplies and if stocks were low."

The court heard Cassell had a string of con-

The court heard Cassell had a string of convictions including possession of a weapon, robbery and affray.

Martin Butterworth, defending Cassell, told the court it had not been a sophisticated operation. He said: "Yes, he had the significant role of the three but he was still a foot soldier."

Tom Walkling, defending Kareem White, said he was motivated by financial desperation and was on "the last rung of the ladder before the user." Matthew Barnes, defending, said that Theo White, 27, who was on licence when arrested, made a 'poor decision' to get involved. Judge Andrew Lockhart QC, told the three: "These were highly addictive drugs you were selling. Quite apart from the harm caused to those addicted to them, they cause a great amount of harm in the community by reason

amount of harm in the community by reason of those desperate people carrying out other offences to fund their habits."

JACK CELEBRATES HIS 108TH BIRTHDAY



Jack Jones, 108, who is believed to be the oldest person in the Midlands, celebrates his birthday at Tudor Manor care home in Stourbridge

HE'S lived during two world wars, 20 prime ministers and the reign of four kings and a queen – and now Baggies superfan Jack

Jones has celebrated turning 108. Jack, who is believed to be the oldest person in the Midlands, says he 'takes every day as it comes' and being sociable is the secret to

He celebrated Friday's momentous occasion with a modest party with tea and cake, surrounded by family. Jack was born on February 12, 1908, when King Edward VII was on the throne.

Life-long West Bromwich Albion fan Jack, who lives at Tudor Manor care home in Stour-bridge, said: "The secret to old age is being sociable - meeting new people and always helping people. I just take every day as it

neiping people. I just take every day as it comes.

"The people here in the care home are so nice to me and look after me – it's like being part of a big family. I've been very fortunate in my life.

"I don't want anything special for my birth-day, I don't really need anything." During the Second World War Jack helped

build Spitfires and after spent much of his working life as a lorry driver, as well as working in the metal industry.

Jack married his wife Winifred in 1939 but she passed away in 1989. The couple did not have children, but Jack was joined by nieces and nephews to celebrate his landmark birthday. He added: "One of my fondest memories is getting married, and going up to the new bungalow I had built."

Home manager Nisha Pritchard said: "He

Home manager Nisha Pritchard said: "He is a very kind, caring man, and a joy to have

EMERGENCY

4x4 rescue for man taken ill in the woods

A MAN aged 63 who suffered a suspected stroke was rescued from a wood on the edge of Stourbridge by an off-road vehicle. The ambulance crew sent to help the man in Bunkers Hill Wood, off Whittington Lane, after receiving a 999 call on Monday afternoon, had to leave their vehicle and walk almost half a mile into the wood. They requested back un from the Haz-

waik annus thair a fille fillo the Wood.
They requested back up from the Hazardous Area Response Team, which used their 6x6 Polaris vehicle to get to the patent and take him to the ambulance. The man was taken on blue lights to Russells Hall Hospital's stroke unit.

JOBS

Burger King dishes up move to centre

FAST food chain Burger King has announced plans for a restaurant at The Waterfront, Brierley Hill, creating new

Dudley Council planners have approved the extension and alteration of an empty retail building in Waterfront Way, off Level Street.

The exact number of new jobs has

not yet been revealed by the chain.

Also approved by planners was an application for a car wash for a site at Point West at The Waterfront.

TRAFFIC

Potential delays at **Merry Hill roadworks**

A NEW set of roadworks near the Merry Hill centre were starting this week, potentially causing hold-ups for shoppers hoping to get to the complex during the half-term holiday

Resurfacing work at the junction of the A4036 Merry Hill and The Boulevard is being carried out as part of a wider project to ease congestion around the busy centre.

The roadworks are included in a

The roadworks are included in a £500,000 scheme to improve traffic flow around Merry Hill by upgrading traffic lights. Work started last month in High Street and Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank.

INSIDE

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CHRONICLE 8

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Care home told it needs to improve

improvement' after an inspection.

Greenleigh care home, on Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley, looks after older people who may have dementia and is registered to provide accommodation and personal care for up to 35 people.

The unannounced Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection took place on December 3 and

4 last year.

The report found that the service to the 32 peo ple living in the home was not consistently safe and they were at risk of not always receiving their medication as prescribed, or 'in line with manu-facturers guidelines.'

It stated that staff lacked direction and leadership, which led to people being kept waiting to be

sinh, which led to be supported.

The home also required improvement in being an effective service, after being labelled as 'inconsistent'.

Busy

The report said: "People told us that the staff were always busy and had mixed views about whether there were enough of them."

On inspection, one member of staff was responsible for giving people their medication and also serving their breakfast, which meant people were

kept waiting. At lunchtime it was noted that staff time was not allocated 'efficiently', with a number of people on one table finishing their meals whilst others had been waiting for 30 minutes to be served.

The manager had acknowledged to officers that

staff time could be better managed and would be looking at the allocation of staff with immediate

effect.

However, the care home was deemed good in being a caring and responsive service, with the report stating people spoke positively about the staff who care for them.

The care home did not wish to comment.

Tesco online warehouse it by mine shaft worry

warehouse for online sales in the Black Country has hit a stumbling block because the intended site is over a mine entrance.

The DotCom centre could create more than 70 jobs and be used to deliver goods and groceries to shoppers' homes from the Burnt Tree Island su-

Plans have been submitted to Dudley Council for three extensions to the super-store, including one underneath the ground floor using some of the car park. But the Coal Authority has lodged an

official objection to the proposals because one of the extensions would be built over an entry to a mine.

It believes the supermarket giant has not provided sufficient information on how the risks would be mitigated. The shaft entry is one of 14 in or near the site.

In a letter to council planners, Coal Authority planning liaison manager James Smith said: "We raised concerns that the extension to the western side of the building would be located over (a) recorded mine

entry.
"We highlighted that building over or within the influencing distance of a mine entry raises significant safety and engineering risks and exposes all parties to potential financial liabilities.

Policy

"The Coal Authority has adopted a "The Coal Authority has adopted a policy where, as a general precautionary principle, the building over or within the influencing distance of a mine entry should wherever possible be avoided.
"Our adopted policy clearly states that building over or within the influencing distance of a mine entry will only be permissible when a suitable engineering design is developed and agreed to the account of all

developed and agreed to take account of all the relevant safety and environmental risk factors including gas and mine-water." A spokesman for Tesco said the applica-

tion was still going through the planning

process.

Tesco's application says up to 13 full and part-time jobs would be created, followed by a further 61 positions.

Wise move as hall attracts owl centre



Owl enthusiasts Alan Peace, Jo Ellis, Barbara Brittain and Ivan Ellis, look at plans for the new centre at Himley Hall

WORK has started on a new $\pounds 900,000$ owl sanctuary which is winging its way to Himley Park.

The World Owl Trust is behind ambitious plans to create the sanctuary at the old walled garden in the park. Work has got under way to clear more than 20 years worth of debris and undergrowth on the two-and-a-half-acre site.

The trust holds some of the finest and most diverse collection of breeding birds in the UK, consist-ing of about 190 birds of 52 spe-

cies - some of which can be seen

Alan Peace, chairman of the trus-tees, said: "This is a massive project which will have a huge impact on the area. To have an international organisation like this moving into Himley is a major coup."

The project will also see an ed-

ucation centre, tea room and shop built at the site.

Mr Peace added: "It was pretty over-grown but the surroundings were superb for us. Among all the trees we can build new aviaries for the birds. The trust is also hoping to be able to find enough volunteers to help clear the site."

It is hoped that around 100 owls It is noped that around 100 owis will eventually be taking their perch at the sanctuary. Some of the owls had been found a tempo-rary home at South Staffordshire College's Rodbaston Campus in Penkridge.

Anyone who would like to get involved with the charity can contact Mr Peace on 07791 900445.

Car crooks' appeals on sentencing dismissed

A GANG of crooked car breakers who dismantled £240,000 worth of high val-ue stolen vehicles – including Audis and BMWsa – and sold them on online auc-

DMW8a - and soil them on offline action site eBay, have been told their sentences were not a day too long.
Ringleader Luke Arnold, 31, along with mechanic, Robert Wood, 26, and money man, Duncan Taylor, 47, fenced the cars, many of which were taken during burglary. ing burglaries.

the ears, many of which were taken during burglaries.

Operating out of workshops in Silverthorne Lane, Cradley Heath, and in Bromsgrove, they disguised the illegal nature of their trade by selling the vehicles bit by bit on the internet.

Wood, of Dawlish Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, and Taylor, of Station Road, Blackwell, Bromsgrove, were each pailed for three and a half years in July last year after pleading guilty to conspiring to handle stolen goods at Birmingham Crown Court. Arnold, of no fixed abode, admitted the same offence and was handed four years eight months behind bars. hind bars.

Last week all three asked London's

Criminal Appeal Court to reduce their sentences. Lawyers for the trio argued that they had not been given enough

credit for their guilty pleas. But Mr Justice Cooke said: "This han-But Mr Justice Cooke said: "This handling was in the most serious category, this was a professional handling conspiracy. Whilst these sentences were harsh, they were in our judgement justified." The judge, sitting with Lord Justice Treacy and Mr Justice Edis, dismissed the appeals.

Memorial darts contest on wav

THE tenth annual John Westwood Memorial Open darts knockout is being played in Pensnett in April.

The tournament, which costs £5 to enter, will be from 2pm in Pensnett So-cial Welfare Club, Commonside, on April

9.

John Westwood, a well-known local darts player despite being registered blind, died in 2006, aged 59, leaving wife Anita and son Carl. The money raised from the raffle on the day will go towards the renewal of his memorial bench at Gornal Wood Crematorium.

The 501 knockout will best of five with

The 501 knockout will best of five with the semi-final best of seven and the final

best of nine.

John was also a keen fisherman and there is also an annual fishing tournament in his memory.

Romance author to meet his fans

AUTHOR Michael Taylor give a talk at Coseley Library in Castle Street on at Coseley Library in Castle Street on Thursday, February 25, from 10.30am. Dudley-born Mr Taylor has written historical romances set locally, includ-ing Eve's Daughter. Places are free but must be booked on (01384) 812775.



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Superfast internet is rolled out to 10,000

MORE than 10,000 businesses and households are now able to access high-speed fibre broadband thanks to the Black Country Broadband Pro-

ject.
Parts of Dudley, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich and Wolver-

bury, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton are among the latest areas to benefit from the project, which is being led by Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership and BT.

The areas to benefit are Bentley, Blackheath, Brierley Hill, Castle ward, Darlaston, Ettingshall, Netherton, Priory, Rowley, St Andrews, St James', St Paul's, St Thomas's, the centre of West Bromwich and Woodside.

As part of the roll-out, engineers

Woodside.

As part of the roll-out, engineers have already installed more than 80 fibre broadband road-side cabinets, which are needed to connect to the new network.

Work has also started on the second phase of the roll out, which is extend.

phase of the roll-out, which is extendphase of the form-out, which is extend-ing the reach of the technology to ad-ditional parts of Brierley Hill, Dudley, James Bridge, Streetly, Tipton and Willenhall.

Ninder Johal, chair of the Black Country Broadband Group and a bound womber of the level optromice.

Country Broadband Group and a board member of the local enterprise partnership, said: "A superfast internet connection can make the world of difference to businesses and homes, so reaching the 10,000 milestone is a huge step in delivering our ambition of a minimum 98 per cent high-speed fibre broadband availability across the Pleaf Country by the god of the the Black Country by the end of June

£1,000 through online donations

THE Mayor of Dudley has received $\pounds 1,000$ in online donations for his charities in just six months.

Councillor Steve Waltho opened the Councillor Steve Waltho opened the facility on BT My Donate, allowing people to donate via mobile phone or computer. The mayor is raising money for five charities this year – The Hope Centre, Halesowen; The What Centre, Stourbridge; More Mascots Please, Brierley Hill; The Leukaemia Unit Appeal Fund; Russells Hall Hospital; and the West Midlands branch of Lupus UK, based in Coseley.

Councillor Waltho said: "I am so pleased that people are choosing to help me raise funds for these de-serving charities." People can donate online at mydonate.bt.com/charities, mayorofdudleyscharities

New homes will replace offices

FORMER council offices in Dudley town centre will be demolished to make way for homes. The Family and Community Support Services base in Greystone Passage will be replaced with 16 semi-detached houses.

Credit controller stole £81k from firm

A CREDIT control supervisor who fleeced her em-

A CREDIT control supervisor who neceds her em-ployer out of more than £80,000 has been given a 20-month jail sentence after pleading guilty to theft. Mother-of-two Joanne Kudlacek intercepted pay-ments intended for her employers and channelled them into her two bank accounts of her own, a judge

was told at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week.
The 43 year old, from Wombourne, got away with
the swindle for almost three years, until by chance a
phone call that was intended for her was answered
by a colleague instead.

Kudlacek, who had worked for London and Cambridge Properties in Kingswinford since 2001, was promoted to the post of credit control supervisor after eight years. But she turned to crime in Octo-

ber 2011, said Mr David Swinnerton, prosecuting. She intercepted a cheque sent to the firm by bailiffs

She intercepted a cheque sent to the firm by baillifs employed to collect unpaid rents and then told them their payment had not arrived.

Kudlacek asked for a replacement electronic money transfer to be sent but gave her bank account details instead of those of her employer. She pulled off the scam 32 times over a period of two years and eight months, while also pocketing cash paid direct by a tenant.

Kudlacek was arranging for a further £5,092 to be paid by money transfer from the bailiffs when their

paid by money transfer from the bailiffs when their phone call to check if it should go to 'the normal account' was answered by a surprised colleague who triggered an internal inquiry. Mr Simon Hanns, detending, said the stolen case had been used to pay off mortgage arrears together with personal debts run up by Kudlacek, including one to a loan shark. Mr Hanns explained: "She did most of the family finances and her husband knew nothing of this."

He continued: "She is so ashamed that she had accounted him each this shillang of the court as

not even told him or their children of her court appearance. She has buried her head in the sand about what she has done and is now going to have to have an incredibly difficult conversation with members of home fewild." of her family

Kudlacek, of Forge Leys, who was of previous good character, admitted the theft of £81,61. She now faces a proceeds of crime hearing.

More than 120 homes for old hospital site

elict hospital site in Wordsley are to be approved – nine years after a housing scheme was first put for-

ward.

Most of the current buildings in the Ridge Hill Hospital grounds, including the Keeling Centre and Shousters House,

which are empty, would be demolished as part of the proposals.

Residents have long called for the site to be cleaned up and the disused site brought back

to life.
Ward councillor Paul Brothwood said he welcomed news that the site is to be revamped but is concerned about the impact of the scheme

on local roads.

Councillor Brothwood said: "It's been dere-Councillor Brothwood said: "It's been dere-lict for some time so it's good to hear it will be brought back into use. But I have raised con-cerns about the additional traffic it will create on Brierley Hill Road. "That road is a nightmare already so I think

the developers need to make sure there is a good long-term plan and local road improve-

Pressures

"I am worried about the additional pressures this is going to put on the existing system, but we desperately need more houses in the borough and that site has been derelict for some time."

time."

Council planners have been recommended

to give the project the green light at the next development committee meeting. A report written for the authority's planning officers concludes: "The proposed development would positively contribute towards the de-livery of new housing supporting sustainable housing growth"

NHS Property Services is behind the project for the site, which would see the majority of

existing structures knocked down.
However the Ridge Hill Centre LIFT building, Pens Meadow School and bungalows and residential accommodation for assisted living would be retained.

Plans for homes to be built at the site were

Fians for nomes to be built at the site were first lodged back in 2007.

In 2011, plans were backed by Dudley planners for 144 homes, relying on improvements to the junction of Brierley Hill Road and widening of the existing Ridge Hill access road, but this scheme also fell by the wayside.



Family pet Mila was viciously kicked by burglars which has left the friendly terrier with nerve damage and large vet bills for her owners

£7,000 raised to help dog recover

MORE than £7,000 has been donated towards vet bills for Halesowen owners of a dog badly beaten by burglars. Mila, an 18-month-old

Mila, an 18-month-old Bedlington terrier, was re-peatedly kicked in the head and left with nerve damage that means she cannot put her front feet on the ground.

Fundraising initiatives set up online have so far raised more than £7,000 to help Mila's owners, Julie Green and her 16-year-old daugh-ter Maddie.

The burglars, who left empty handed, raided the Green family home on Al-brighton Road between 6pm and 7.30pm on Thursday.

Mrs Green said: "I'm just shocked and heartbroken that someone could do this to Mila. She is the friendliest dog.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers anon-ymously on 0800 555 111.

Online fundraising by the family has raised £5,522 while an initiative by well-wisher Kieran Brophy has been supported to the tune of £1,555. Mrs Green said: "It means a lot to our family." 'It means a lot to our family that there are so many car-ing people out there."

NEWS IN BRIEF 3

Library shake-up backed by cabinet

A SHAKE-UP of library services across Dudley which will see them run independently of the council has been backed by senior councillors.

The council cabinet backed a plan to establish a Libraries, Archives and Learning Mutual, a not-for-profit or-ganisation which would involve ser-vices being run by council employees and volunteers.

A final decision will be made by the full council in April. The cost-cutting move could see opening hours reduced and many libraries going down to a single staff member.

Young actors can audition for show

A THEATRE company in Dudley is looking for young actors to audition later this month for their new show. Pink Productions' former members include One Direction's Liam Payne. Their new show, Electricity, is being staged at the Mill Theatre, Sedgley, in June and will be packed with songs from popular West End musicals, including Billy Elliot. Auditions cost £2, held on Sunday at Holy Trinity Church, Farrington Road, Ettingshall Park Estate. Under 13s are at 12.15 pm, over 13s at 1.30pm. Call 01902 682087 or 07763 847811.

Tuffers to speak at charity dinner

TV presenter and ex-England cricketer Phil Tuffnell will be speaking at a charity dinner in Brierley Hill
The Mary Stevens Hospices Sportsman Dinner, is being held at the Copthorne Hotel on April 14. The twent will also include a three course meal, comedian Gary Marshall and will be hosted by Radio WM's Paul Franks. All proceeds will go to hospice care. Tickets cost £55 per individual or £50 each for a table of eight or ten. Call (01902) 244220.

Students creating art for canal towpath

HALESOWEN College has launched a brand new partnership with Coomb Wood Canal Trust to help design a new piece of artwork for a towpath.

The project is in its early stages with students starting to research the history of the area. Then it is planned for art students to come up with designs to be placed along the canal towpath. Elaine Cammies, community participation director at Halesowen College, sid. "It is a great experience for our

said: "It is a great experience for our students."

Artist has exhibition

BLACK Country artist David Johnson is to have an exhibition in Dudley town centre. DJ – Painter will run at Dudley Artspace in Birdcage Walk from a launch event tomorrow (Friday) through to March 24. Mr Johnson works meinly in eile and has led son works mainly in oils and has led on several community mural projects.



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THE BEST OF RHODES



THAT awkward moment on Crimewatch when a mugshot of a criminal bore a striking resemblance to presenter Jason Mohammed, takes me back to the 1970s when I was working Oop North. A handbag snatcher struck. His shocked victim, who barely saw the robber, said he looked a bit like a sports reporter on the local paper, whose byline photo appeared in every adition. The core went to the powerpaper. edition. The cops went to the newspape office and took away the bewildered, and blameless, hack for questioning.

MORE things we believed in childhood. A reader writes: "As a youngster who had to attend Sunday School, I could never understand how Jesus was born on December 25 and died at Easter but managed to become a man and perform countless miracles in three or four months." And a lady who grew up in the 1950s recalls: "I believed you got pregnant by sitting in the back row of the cinema. I turned down many dates as a consequence until I eventually found out the truth.

ACCORDING to some reports, holiday bookings to Turkey are down 40 per cent because British trippers are scared of ter-rorist attacks. Well, that's one explanation. Another is that we have seen the world's biggest and most brutal people-smuggling operation grow and thrive under the eyes of the Turkish authorities, threatening our borders and littering the Mediterranean beaches with drowned children. Does Tur-key deserve our custom?



Jones turned up at court wear-ing a back-to-front baseball cap. He was served with a restraining or-der. Come to think of it, if

every male over 40 who wears a baseball cap the wrong way around were held un-der house arrest, wouldn't the world be a

SPARE us the attempted posthumous conversion of Terry Wogan. He was a declared lifelong atheist. Yet some want to turn the Godless Wogan into something turn the Godless Wogan into something else. Their argument goes: Terry was a good man, therefore he was close to God. The idea that an atheist might be a good person doesn't even enter their thinking. Wogan saw the real, unfair world, including the nastier side of Catholicism, and drew his own conclusions: no God, no Heaven, no Hell, just the eternal goodness of humanity. Wogan was a good atheist and his views should be respected, not turned upside-down by the God-botherers. side-down by the God-botherers.

THEY are not cardboard, metal, textile or paper. They are not compostable and they aren't electrical goods. So how do I recycle my old hot-water bottle?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your **Express & Star**

Wings charity show in doubt again Dudley MP's

THE future of a popular charity show has been plunged into doubt for a second time after people near its new venue created an 'uproar'. Villagers living near the new home of Wings and Wheels, which had lost its former site at Halfpenny Green Airport, are up in arms at the prospect of the two-day event being held at Lower Cockshutt Farm in Chetton, near Bridgnorth.

Site owner Roy Millington had stepped in to save the twice-yearly charity show by offering his land but he was forced to withdraw the offer after neighbours complained.

The organisers of the event, which was being renamed the Bridgnorth Wings and Wheels, said villagers mistakenly believed the event would be staged on the same scale as previous shows which drew up to 5,000 people.

The Bridgnorth Wings and Wheels Facebook page said Mr Millington had cancelled the event to avoid up-

had cancelled the event to avoid upsetting his neighbours.
Alec Brew, curator of Tettenhall Museum of Transport, which is funded by the show, said people had wrongly come to the conclusion that the event, scheduled to take place on Easter Sunday and Monday, would include fly-pasts. But the new event

would have been more accurately de-scribed as 'a large village fete', with planes started up but none actually

leaving the ground.

A maximum of 2,000 people over the two days were anticipated.

tne two days were anticipated. He said the term 'air show' had alarmed people. "It's a very narrow terminology, perhaps we should have called it an 'air day'. It's just unfortunate," he said.

Redundancy payments by councils total £50m

COUNCILS across Black Country and Staffordshire have spent almost £50 million on redundancy payments to staff in the last five years.

A Freedom of Information (FOI) request shows that Dud-(FOI) request shows that Dud-ley Council has paid out more than £21m, Wolverhampton City Council spent more than £13m, while Walsall Council coughed up £5,947,094. Across the Black Country's four authorities 5,391 staff were either made redundant or took voluntary redundancy in that time.

redundancy in that time.

The huge payouts have come during a time when the region's authorities are making massive budget cuts to meet swingeing reductions to

central government grants.

Sandwell Council failed to respond to the FOI request – despite being given 60 working days to do

Staffordshire County Council has shelled out almost £30m in redundancy payments since 2010/11.

Savings

Dudley Council paid out £21,334,000 to 1,447 departing staff members. The figure includes almost £8.5 million in redundancy payouts in 2010/11, when 529 people were either laid off or took voluntary redundancy.

Wolverhampton Council paid 1,546 workers a total of £13,680,707.

1,346 workers a total of £13,000,707. Payouts included £6,742,427 in 2013/14 when 777 employees were either laid off or took voluntary re-

either laid on or took voluntary redundancy.
Finance chief Councillor Andrew Johnson said: "We have tried as far as possible to make the council run efficiently. Our biggest cost is staffing, and those who have remained

have effectively had a pay cut when you take inflation into account."

Walsall Council paid £5,947,094 to 624 staff who left the authority. One departing staff member was paid £83,665 in 2011/12.

Award for 'guardian angel' midwife



Midwife of the Year Claire South, left, and Archie with his mother Lucy Goodway, from Halesowen

A DEDICATED midwife in Dudley has won a top award

A DEDICATED midwife in Dudiey has won a top award for being a 'guardian angel'.

Claire South, who has worked for the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust for 11 years, has been named Midwife of the Year for the Midlands and East region.

The 33-year-old was nominated by Lucy Goodway who was helped by Claire through both heartache and joy during the pregnancies.

was helped by Claire through both heartache and Joy during two pregnancies.

Claire won the Emma's Diary Mums' Midwife of the Year 2016 prize, part of the Royal College of Midwives' Midwifery Awards.

At 37 weeks in July 2014, Claire sadly discovered Lucy's baby had no heartbeat. Two days later Lucy, from Halesowen, delivered a baby boy, Jack William Good-

way. Claire remained by 35-year-old Lucy's side in the days

after the stillbirth to remember baby Jack and support

after the stillbirth to remember baby Jack and support her family through their grief.

Seven weeks later Lucy discovered she was pregnant again but was terrified. It was Claire's support that got her through the pregnancy and in June 2015, Lucy gave birth to a baby boy who she named Archie Jack Goodway, after his brother. She also has a daughter, Nell, who is three and a half.

Lucy said: "Claire has been my guardian angel twice. When I lost my beautiful little boy at 37 weeks, she was there for me every single day – holding my hand, always knowing what to say, and giving me hope for the future. And then she was there for me again a few months later. I was a nervous wreck but she was so kind, calm and I was a nervous wreck but she was so kind, calm and supported me every step of the way.
"I am now lucky enough to call her my friend."

Est.1973

riot reforms get support in Commons

REFORMS to 19th century riot laws aiming to give victims a 'fair deal' has been introduced in a Bill by Dudley South MP Mike Wood, which has now cleared the House of Commons.
MPs backed introducing a £1 million cap on claims for riot damage and giving victims at least 183 days.

and giving victims at least 132 days to make a claim and provide evidence as part of a better organised compensation system.

Other changes to the 1886 laws in-

clude allowing items damaged in a riot to be replaced on a 'new for old' basis. Uninsured individuals and families Uninsured individuals and families made temporarily homeless by a riot may also be able to claim costs such as rent for an alternative property or 'reasonable' hotel bills while repairs are carried out, Home Office minister

reasonable notei bills while repairs are carried out, Home Office minister James Brokenshire added.

Moves for reform emerged following frustrations that existing laws were archaic and let down those who suffered as a result of the 2011 summer riots, most notably in London.

Conservative MP Mr Wood said he hopes his Riot Compensation Bill, which will undergo further scrutiny in the Lords, will never have to be used. He told the Commons: "The current 130-year-old legislation is unsurprisingly out-dated and inadequate. It's unclear in what circumstances claims can be made."

He added: "We all hope and pray that there will not be future riots of the kind, and certainly the scale, we saw in August 2011. Hoping for the best can never become an alternative best can never become an alternative to preparing for the worst."

Tenants get help to deal with debt

A PROJECT run in Dudley has helped tenants deal with debt and retain their tenancies.

reineiped tenants deal with debt and retain their tenancies.

The project, the result of a partnership between Dudley Council and Dudley Citizens Advice, has helped housing tenants with problems ranging from unemployment and reductions in benefit payments, to being unable to afford repayments on loans. Last year, more than 260 tenants were referred to the service.

Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet member for housing, said: "It is really important tenants pay their housing rent as it is a priority debt, which means that non payment could lead to eviction. This partnership project aims to help anyone who is worried about losing their home due to financial problems." Call (01384) 811689.

Soul night is being held in civic centre

AN EVENING of soul music is being

held at Wombourne Civic Centre.

DJs Dave Thomas and Mick Stevens will be playing Motown, Stax and northern soul favourites on April 9 from 8pm to midnight. Advance tickets on 01902 664121.





UKIP only paid for hire of hall after legal threat

with legal action when the cash-strapped party failed to pay a bill of less than \$500 to hire Himley Hall for

less than £500 to hire Himley Hall for a meeting last year.

The party hosted a defence policy meeting at the Dudley Council-owned venue, which was attended by UKIP leader Nigel Farage.

But Dudley Council did not receive payment until six months later, following numerous phone calls, emails and two letters from the authority's debt collection agency.

The £495.85 bill was finally settled in October last year when UKIP's West Midlands MEP James Carver stepped in to settle the bill.

in October last year when UKIP's West Midlands MEP James Carver stepped in to settle the bill.

It comes as it emerged that the party had struggled to raise funds since last year's General Election as donors instead spent their money on anti-European Union campaigns. UKIP has put the delay in paying the bill down to administrative errors.

Bill Etheridge, a West Midlands UKIP MEP and councillor for Sedgley, said: "It was just a case of finding the right person in the party to pay it.

They asked me to pay it several times but I said no as it was down to head office. We are only talking about a few hundred quid. It had nothing to do with us being on our uppers."

UKIP spent \$2.85 million on fighting last year's General Election but has struggled to raise funds since.

Mr Farage is set to appear at Wolverhampton's Dunstall Park on Saturday to deliver a talk on Britain leaving the EU.

urday to deliver a talk on Britain leaving the EU.

Under-5s day to be bigger and better

STALLHOLDERS are encouraged to show their support at an annual children's day at Himley Hall and Park.

The Under-5s Day is promising to be bigger and better than ever and will include entertainment specifically designed for children under five.

Last year's event saw record numbers in attendance, with figures reaching almost 4,000 visitors throughout the day.

Stallholders are encouraged to apply early if they would like a trade stand at the event on June 24 from 10am to 3pm. Entertainment will include the return of the famous Himley Beach and much more.

To apply for a stall email himley. hall@dudley.gov.uk or call (01384) 817817 for information.

Free admission for organ recital

MUSIC fans are invited to an organ recital at a Stourbridge church on March 6. Paul Carr will be perform-ing at Holy Trinity Parish Church in Wordsley. Admission to the 3pm recit-al is free.

Man died after hitting head in fall

A MAN who refused to go to hospital after bumping his head during a fall at his home died as a result of

an accident, a coroner has ruled.
Donald Peverell, aged 77, of Woods Crescent,
Brierley Hill, who had a history of falls, died at Russells Hall Hospital on November 26, 2015. He had bumped his head in a fall on the landing of his home

in August last year.

Mr Peverell, who had type two diabetes, had recently undergone a hip replacement. Though the operation was a success, he continued to have mobility issues

His wife Sheila Peverell, who was at the inquest at Smethwick council house, was on holiday at the time of the fall. She had arranged for carers to visit

her husband, as well as meals on wheels, her daughter Deborah Stanley and Mr Peverell's three sons.
Following the fall, Mr Peverell refused to go to
hospital and his demeanour had been normal according to Mrs Stanley, his stepdaughter.
"He was very stubborn." Mrs Stanley said. "He
had a visible bump on the left side of his head and
some bruising, but he refused to get it checked out
and otherwise seemed fine."

Mr Peverell was admitted to the Dudley hospital
on September 14 suffering with a blood clot in his
brain. He was transferred to the critical care unit
at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Birminpham. a day

at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, a day later. Whilst at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, he was moved to the neurological unit then back to the crit-

stabilised and he was moved back to Russells Hall

He died shortly after he underwent an operation to reduce the size of his tracheotomy tube.

A report by Dr Steve Sturman, consultant new

rologist at the QE, revealed that Mr Peverell had

injuries to his spinal cord as a result of his falls.

The inquest heard he died from pneumonia, type

two diabetes and tiny blood clots in his lungs.
Senior coroner for the Black Country Zafar Siddique said: "If it wasn't for the fall, Mr Peverell would not have been in this position at hospital. I

91 motorists caught speeding in one hour

speeding in just one hour as part of a campaign launched by residents in Brierley Hill.

Caledonia Residents Association launched their own speed campaign in a bid to crackdown on speeding and also encourage motorists to slow down.

Using a radar speed gun, members of the group recorded the speed of 110 passing vehi-

group recorded the speed of 110 passing vehi-cles on Caledonia.

A total of 91 out of 110 vehicles were travel-ling over 30mph, with 78 of those driving be-tween 30 to 40mph, 12 between 40 to 50mph and one over 50mph, when the test was con-ducted between 10am and 11am on Saturday,

January 30.

Just 19 vehicles were driving within the speed limit of 30mph. The average speed of all vehicles recorded was 35.23mph, with one vehicle travelling at 52mph.

Details of all vehicles recorded as having exceeded the 30mph speed limit have been passed to the police, with a request that those exceed-ing 40mph are sent a warning letter.

Encourage

Chairman of the Caledonia Residents Association, David Adams said: "The objective of the campaign is to both encourage motorists to slow down by a physical presence on Caledonia, as well as recording the speeds of those who

slow down by a physical presence on Caledonia, as well as recording the speeds of those who were exceeding the speed limit for the police to issue warning letters.

"What sparked us into taking action was a near tragic accident which happened on the road last year. "We spoke to residents who were deeply concerned by how fast cars were driving past and this accident was just one of several that happened.

"Further speed awareness campaigns are planned for the near future, with details of motorists exceeding the speed limit also being passed to the police."

Deputy Mayor for Dudley Councillor M Hanif attended the crackdown and is fully supportive of the Caledonia Residents Association campaign. He said: "I think it's fantastic what the association is doing. Something like this has been needed for a very long time.

"Speeding on Caledonia Road and surrounding roads has been a big problem which has worried nearby residents for many years. The peoplehave done a great job organising the reamairs and this is just the start of many."

peoplehave done a great job organising the campaign and this is just the start of many."

Call over future of historic library



Councillors Elaine Taylor, Qadar Zada and Chrstine Perks who have launched the Woodside Library campaign

Councillors Elaine 1aylor, dadar Zac
CAMPAIGNERS are calling for
the future of an historic former
library in Dudley to be secured.
The much-lived Woodside Library links back to the Earls of
Dudley but is now boarded up
after being targeted by vandals.
Campaigners are trying to persuade officials to relocate the 19th
century landmark to the Black
Country Living Museum.
The building in Stourbridge

The building in Stourbridge Road, Woodside, has been empty

and boarded up since it was closed in 2008 under council cost-cutting

easures.
Residents have contacted coun-

Residents have contacted councillors urging action saying the building is an 'eyesore' to nearby homes and is attracting litter.
Chairman of Holly Hall and Woodside Tenants and Residents Association, Colin Day, aged 71, said: "It has become an eyesore and scaffolding has been left up around it for too long." Previ-

ously, plans to transform the old ously, plans to transform the old library into homes failed to get off the ground as it emerged the Earl of Dudley put a protective cov-enant on the site saying it could only be used for a 'public purpose'.

The building was opened in July 1894 after the 2nd Earl of Dudley donated around £2,900 towards

Ward councillors Elaine Taylor, Qadar Zada and Christine Perks have joined the campaign.

Chance to talk on high-rise blocks

RESIDENTS living in Dudley's high-rise flats are invited to discuss issues relating to their estates at a meeting. Dudley Council is encouraging its tenants and leaseholders to become in-

volved in the running of their blocks. A special group, the High Rise Living Forum, meets on a regular basis, dis-cussing issues relating to living within

a high-ris.

The next meeting will be at Salt wells Education Centre, Netherton, on February 23 from 7pm to 8.30pm. Tea and coffee will be served from 6.30pm. Call (01384) 815168.

Donations to fund group's new hut

A POPULAR woodcraft group that was targeted by arsonists has received more than £12,000 in donations to help it get back on its feet.

Arsonists torched the hut of High Acres Woodcraft Folk group in Decem-ber. The group has operated in Kin-ver for 48 years. Now donations have flooded in to help build a new hut.

A work party is set to begin rebuild-ing it at the end of May, which has been organised by group leader Bob

Donations can be made at www.go fundme.com/woodcraftfolk

Clean water boost thanks to Rotary

CLEAN water is now flowing into a village in Uganda thanks to the fund-raising efforts of Kinver Rotary Club. Members donated half of the £7,000

needed to construct a bore hole which is delivering clean water to the village of Kititi.

of Kitti.
Following additional donations from Bewdley Rotary Club and a grant from the clubs' district body the project was completed by engineers and officially inaugurated by the country's vice president, Edward Ssekadw.

Classical concert in aid of church funds

MORE than 100 musicians will be performing in a classical music con-cert that is being held in a Stourbridge town centre church next month to

town centre church next month to help its fundraising. The Restoration Chorus and Stour-bridge Chamber Orchestra will be per-forming Brahms' Requiem and works by Vaughan Williams at St John's United Reformed Church, off St John's Road, on March 12 at 7.80pm. Tickets cost £10, available at Harris & Son Butchers, High Street, Wollaston

Nutrition at library

A FOOD and nutrition drop-in s sion is being held at Kingswinford Library tomorrow (Friday) between 10.30-11.30am. Also at the library in Market Street, today at 10,30am is the chance for five to 12-year-olds to make friendship bracelets. Call (01384) 816491 for more information

ADVERTISEMENT

Cloudy2Clear Windows Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are eamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes - not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when

we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!



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IN MY VIEW

Silence is golden as day centre is suffering

NOBODY who has followed the fortunes of Wolverhampton Council for the past few years can be unaware of the massive cuts to services the authority has been

Looking at the bigger picture, £146 mil-Looking at the bigger picture, £146 mil-lion worth of savings over the next three years seems hard to comprehend. But it is the smaller stuff which really makes a difference. Take, for example, the Colum-ba Day Centre which cares for people suffering from dementia. It used to be funded by the council, but now faces possible closure unless £150,000 can be

It is in this context that we learn Wolver-

It is in this context that we learn Wolver-hampton Council has spent nearly £8m of public money over the last five years buy-ing the silence of departing staff. Yes, that's right. Since 2011/2, the cash-strapped council has spent almost £8m on ensuring people do not talk pub-licly about their work or the reasons why they have left they have left.

In the past eight months alone, while the authority has been busy warning us about draconian cuts it has spent £1.8m

on clauses to keep people quiet.

What beans they thought their former stiff were going to spill, we will probably never know. But one can only assume that some of it was not going to be en-

tirely positive.

Perhaps £8m does not seem a great amount of money to an organisation han-dling hundreds of millions of pounds, but it would keep the Columba Day Centre, and dozens of other small local services, running for a good few years. Silence is golden, so the saying goes. And very expensive, by the sound of things.

NEARLY 50,000 people have signed a petition calling for the north of England, from Liverpool, Sheffield and Hull upwards, to join with Scotland in a new independent state.

Actually, I use the term petition loosely.

It is another one of these Change.org online campaigns, where busybody activists spend their days furiously tapping away at their computer screens believing they can change the world through a wabeita

website.

Still it raises an interesting question about how relevant the values of Westminster are to the rest of the UK, although I fear they have missed the point slightly.

There is not so much a north-south di-

vide in modern Britain, but a chasm be-tween London and the rest of Britain. The answer is surely not for the north of Eng-land to join with Scotland, but for London o be declared an independent principality

o be declared an independent principality like Monaco.

Let them worry about tofu, diversity and cycle lanes, and the rest of us will create a new capital city for the rest of Britain. Somewhere central. In the Black Country maybe?

estetes (M) estetes



A Kodak Brownie camera with parts from camera flash



Another one of Paul's many unique clocks



Paul Parry from Coven who makes unique clocks

Clocking on for some stunning timepieces

Paul Parry's spare time hobby is going places and has caught the attention of a Dragon Den's star, as JOE EDWARDS reports

TAKE a little time to take in these stunning timepieces.

They take months to produce and sell for thousands of pounds and are just some of the hundreds of stunning clocks

made by Paul Parry in his spare time.

Mr Parry uses both upcycled electronics and new materials to make the clocks on evenings

and weekends, from the spare bedroom of his home in Coven, near Wolverhampton. The 43-year-old set up Bad Dog Designs with partner Karen in April 2014, and the business has taken flight with customers around the world looking to get their hands on a truly individual, unique design.

Rewards

Dragons' Den star Theo Paphitis recently spotted Bad Dog Designs through his weekly Small Business Sunday initiative on Twitter,

Small business Sunday initiative on Twitter, where he rewards entrepreneurs who send him a quick description of their business. Paul recently showcased some of his designs at Liberty's department store in London and is due to meet Mr Paphitis at a Small Business Sunday convention at The ICC, Birmingham temperature.

tomorrow. With prices starting at around £300, Paul, who works in management for a systems maintenance infrastructure company, has been commissioned to produce a robot clock, using brass and stainless steel, for a hotel in Singapore which he will sell for £7,000, his biggest sale to date.

gest sale to date.
"The robot clock is on commission for £7,000

"The robot clock is on commission for £7,000 and is going to a boutique hotel in Singapore which is being built as we speak," said Paul.

"It will stand in the foyer and will be the first thing people see when they walk in."

Paul says he has now made around 200 different clocks during his spare time, all of which are signed by himself.

These include the Watson, which was orig-



Design taken from Turing's Bombe used to decode Enigma Machine messages

inally a 1938 watt meter, the Captain Nemo MK II, made from an old music box casing from the 1850s, and the Marconi MK II, styled to look like an old valve radio or amplifier.

"I only do evenings and weekends, some commissions can take around four to five months to complete. The robot clock will take 18-months," he added.

"The quickest I've ever done one is in two or three evenings but that was a small, simple clock. "The cost is a reflection of the time and effort that goes into every clock

"Every one is different, everybody wants something unique to them. Hopefully some-body will come along some day and commis-sion me to do a clock that is worth £20,000. When people see the clocks, they will ask 'what is that?' Then the second question will be 'where can I get one from?'''

Nixie tubes, which are used to display the

time on Paul's steampunk clocks, were hugely popular in the 1950s and 60s and used in gadgets of the time, from petrol pumps to mil-itary equipment.

in the early 1990s, but Paul scours the inter-net for old tubes, which have a distinctive ornet for oid tubes, which have a distinctive or-ange glow and each digit stacked behind the other within the tube. Small ones cost around £6 each, medium-sized ones approximately £30 and large ones can be bought for as much

as £200.

"They are not economically viable for companies to produce, it's very much an old technology. Its a niche market," said Paul.

Every clock is handmade with recycled equipment and original vintage items, but modern microprocessor technology is used to power the old tubes. Most are named after the next conditions and clockwise language. famous scientists and electrical engineers, such as Michael Faraday, Nikola Tesla and

Such as Michael Faraday, Nikola Tesia and Guglielmo Marconi. People from all over the globe have bought a clock made by Paul, who remarkably doesn't own one himself.

own one nimself.
"They're named after 17th and 18th century
scientists – Faraday, Tesla, Gordon – mainly
so I know which one is which," he added.

Celebrating

"I've done clocks celebrating birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and even as Christ-mas gifts. The enquires I get are from all over the place.

mas gifts. The enquires 1 get are from an over the place.

"When people see the clocks, they really do sell themselves. Around 30 to 40 per cent of my customers are repeat customers, which has

"One guy from the United States has bought five off me. I've had people from the States and Singapore come over here to pick up their

and Singapore come over here to pick up their clocks.

"Sometimes when they are going out to China and Singapore, I'll use a shipping company but a lot do come over to pick them up and see how it all works.

"The business funds itself, a sale of a clock funds the parts for the next one.

"I love building the clocks, I find it relaxing. I have to sell them though otherwise I'd just.

I have to sell them though, otherwise I'd just have a house full of them. I don't actually own

have a house full of them. I don't actually own one, but one of these days I will actually own a clock that I have made myself." To see the full range of remarkable clocks which Paul has produced, visit www.bad-dog-designs.co.uk





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OVER recent years we have all seen a considerable cut on funding for public services. One that really concerns me the most is our libraries.

A large number of libraries have already been closed by the Government's spending cuts. I feel closure of libraries has a huge impact on society.

It is easy to understand the decline of people visiting libraries due to the increase in internet usage on mobile phones and tablets, and not realising the importance of having a library within the community, especially for the young and elderly.

These days school children will type

in their question on Google and will be supplied a list of various links with the asymptote and will be supplied a list of various links with the answer. Ok, I agree it saves time, but this also limits the child in using their save time, but this also limits the child in using their costs) there is the risk of losing professional expertise and the data protection that librarians have to adhere to. As a child I attended the library would have a huge impact on all generations. Not only that but if libraries are run by volunteers (one of the proposals in cutting the risk of losing professional expertise and the data protection that librarians have to adhere to. As a child I attended the library would have a huge impact on all generations. Not only that but if libraries are run by volunteers (one of the proposals in cutting the risk of losing professional expertise and the data protection that librarians have to adhere to. As a child I attended the library books was to me Aladdin's Cavel Books have inspired me so much.

Let the children be inspired me so much.

Let the children be

Call for dog free areas in all parks

ALL parks should have dog

free areas.

So well done to Dudley Council in having the fore-thought to make a dog free

zone at Himley Hall Park
This should apply to all
parks in the borough.

A park is for the use of everyone and not just the dog walkers, who should

dog walkers, who should have a segregated dog zone of their own.

This would keep the rest of the parks free from rampaging dogs defecating and urinating all over the place.

My local park is Wollescote Park, which is a lovely park containing many flower beds, children's play area, tennis courts and area, tennis courts and bowling greens.

It annoys me when these facilities are invaded by roaming dogs whose own-ers cannot be bothered to control them and/or pick up

their animal's waste.

Let's have more dog free area in all our parks.

A THOMAS Stourbridge

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Disgust at

POST

Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Stre

dudley.chrons@

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone

Can I negotiate my tax rate now please?

GEORGE Osborne announced that he had managed to get a concession from Google to pay their corporation tax at a rate of two and a half per cent. As a tax-payer and a pensioner I would like to negotiate the same terms please. Ordinary people like us have to pay what the tax man demands. Why the difference? It is because Google and many like them stash their money away in tax havens, so that the Inland Revenue can't get access to it. Apparently, this is called tax avoidance which is somehow different from tax vassion, even though it is tantamount to the same thing

evasion, even though it is tantamount to the same thing.

One can only assume it is legal because it is another avenue allowing the ruling classes to get richer whilst the

poor get poorer.

Osborne claims that the Google deal is the best he can Osborne claims that the Google deal is the best he can do. If I had stashed billions in taxes in my cousin's house in Australia, I'll bet HMRC would soon seize all my assets. This is what we should do with those greedy multi-nationals. HMRC should seize their tangible UK assets up to the value of their tax debts. You can bet they would pay their taxes then. We should pass a law that paying the correct tax is a pre-condition of allowing them to trade in the UK.

M CLIFF

domination of football

I WONDER how many readers recall the names of Sean ters recan trie manies of search Kerly – who was a member of the British hockey team that won gold at the Seoul Olympics in 1988 – and of Jane Sixsmith, a member of the ladies' team which brought back bronze from

At the time, these young people were quite rightly lauded for the honour they brought to Britain. People have short memories

have short memories.

I am not particularly a hockey fan. I have seldom watched a game but I must express my disgust at the shameful decision of Dudley shameful decision of Dudley Council to turn out two-long established hockey clubs from the Dell Stadium in order to lay a £500,000 synthetic pitch which it hopes will encourage budding footballers. What about encouraging young hockey players? Yet again we have the interests of a minority sport being cynically sacrificed on the altar of the great god Football. Disgraceful. B WILLIAMS
Wordsley



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Medal won by heroic soldier sells for £48k

soldier who fought against Zulu warriors in a bloody conflict and is buried in Bilston has been sold at a Stourbridge auction for nearly £50,000.

The medal of 1524 Private Joseph Bromwich 2-24th Foot, who fought in the Ango-Zulu War, was sold to a Midlands private collector for \$40.080

tor for £48,980.

It was inherited by a Black Country couple through their family, who had

no idea of its value.

Around 150 British and colonial soldiers defended a mission station in the Battle of Roke's Drift in South Africa.

The fight lasted for 12 hours and was against a Zulu force of thousands. It proved the inspiration for the 1964 blockbuster movie Zulu, starring Michael Caine and Stanley Baker.

Brother

Private Bromwich, who is buried in Bilston, served in the battle, aged just 22, alongside his elder brother

just 22, alongside his elder brother Charles.

The medal was originally estimated to be sold for around £20,000 at Field-ings Auctioneers but went for more than twice as much.

than twice as much.

Private Bromwich was discharged from the Army in 1882, suffering from hepatitis, and settled with Bilston-born wife Betsy, in Aston, opening a boot and shoe repairing shop.

Eventually moving to the Black Country and continuing to work as a boot and shoe repairer.

His wife died in 1914 and the following year, he was diagnosed with cancer of the tongue. He died on the February 25 1916, aged just 60, and is buried in an unmarked grave in a Bilston Cemetery.



Auction director Nick Davies with the rare medal that came up for sale

Junior doctors on picket line

JUNIOR doctors were on a picket line outside Russells Hall Hospital last week during a second national one-day strike in the space of a month. A group of around 20 junior doctors gathered with placards, banners and posters for the 24-hour walkout on February 10 as part of the ongoing dispute over new contracts.

The major sticking point in the dispute is over weekend pay and whether Saturday should be largely classed as a normal working day.

normal working day.

Registrar Hafiz Aladin, 32, joined his co-workers on the picket line. He said: "The change of contract is ludicrous and it's almost a fallacy to think the NHS can survive if this is implemented. We have been overwhelmed with wiblic support we've received."

mented. We nave been overwhened with public support we've received."
At the hospital, 182 outpatient appointments, four day-case procedures and two inpatient operations had to be rescheduled.
No-one from hospital management was available to comment.

Bourne to be wild in fairy ballet re-vampire

Sleeping Beauty,
Birmingham Hippodrome
MATTHEW Bourne's thrilling reinvention of Sleeping
Beauty takes only the bare
bones of Pepita's classic
1890 ballet but keeps Tchaikovsky's marvellous music
largely intact.
The Bourne ultimatum is
to entertain, and he does so
lavishly with a production
that blends grand ballet
techniques with modern
dance, even a hint of breakdance, in his irreverent
approach that makes a familiar fairy tale weird again.
He freely rewrites the
story to have the baby Aurora attended by vampire

story to have the baby Au-rora attended by vampire fairies and the evil fairy Car-abosse (no Maleficent here) have a wicked son Caradoc to lustily pursue the prin-cess years later.

He then explains her gamekeeper suitor's one hundred year wait by having him turned into a vam-

Being a Bourne production, it's a sexy concoction with lots of dark humour or from a curtain-climbing puppet baby to selfie-generation urban explorers who open the act after the '100 year interval' moves from

1911 to 'last night'.

The only minus with this show, which has been revived from two years ago, was that the music was recorded. Few touring compa-nies can afford an orchestra.

But the dancers were dynamic, the costumes and sets a gothic fantasy made real and the whole experi-ence wildly romantic – it's a Bourne winner. Leon Burakowski



Work your way back to this great pop musical

Jersey Boys, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre THEY may have started out as 'four guys under a street lamp singing someone else's songs' but The Four Seasons went on to be-

under a street lamp singing someone else's songs' but The Four Seasons went on to become one of the biggest names in music. And it was all down to Hollywood star Joe Pesci. Of course, he wasn't big in the movies back then, but it was he who introduced Bob Gaudio to rest of the band – and the rest, as they say, is history.

And, while musicals are made based on the music of Queen and Abba, this one is the real deal. A genuine compelling and often heartbreaking tale of the New Jersey pals who spawned such timeless classics as Sherry, Let's Hang On, Walk Like A Man and Rag Doll.

The show-stopping musical tells of their highs and lows, from their law-breaking early days and line-up and name changes to their rise to the top via personal crises, tragedies and break-ups. But the one consistent theme is music that still stands the test of time.

THEATRE REVIEWS

Despite looking like a cross between Ardal O'Hanlon and John Bishop, Matt Corner could not be more perfectly cast as Frankie Valli. He has a stunning range and one can see him putting all his effort into hitting those high notes. He will reprise the role in the West End from March 15 as the musical celebrates its eighth year in London, now at the Piccadilly Theatre.

The harmonies between all bandmates (Sam Ferriday as Gaudio, Lewis Griffiths as Nick Massi and Stephen Webb as Tommy DeVito) were terrific, while the rest of the team could also not be faulted. They are one of music's most charismatic, enigmatic

one of music's most charismatic, enigmatic one or music's most charamatic, enigmatic groups and theirs is a story that will never be tired of being told.

Oh What A Night? It certainly was. It runs at the Grand until Saturday.

Mark Shipp

£1m timeshare gang targeted pensioners



Emma Jelf, aged 44, of Stourbridge

MEMBERS of a fraud gang whose £1 million timeshare swindle left elderly victims financial have been jailed for a com-

bined 48 years.

Many of the 38 pensioners targeted by the ruthless fraudsters from the West Midlands had their life savings siphoned away after swindlers offered to help them sell their Spanish time-

shares.

Seven members of the gang were jailed at Birmingham Crown Court for conspiracy to defraud, while three were given suspended sentences and community service.

In total, 38 people were duped out of £1m between February 2011 and April 2013. Conspirators would phone up victims and tell them their timeshares could be sold but a fee had to be paid, the court had been told.

be paid, the court had been told.

Victims were told they had to pay tax and legal fees while at the same time being promised an increased



Todd Mann, aged 27, of Stourbridge

Judge Roderick Henderson told Judge Roderick Henderson told Birmingham Crown Court: "One vic-tim lost £172,000, her life savings. Another, who was 78, was hoping to pay off her mortgage, but now she'll have to continue to work." He told the fraudsters: "You will have known that your victims were elderly and vulnerable."

Launder

Launder

The swindle involved setting up of two companies. More people were recruited so their bank accounts could be used to launder cash.

The biggest loser lost £250,000, while another paid out £165,000.

Emma Jelf, 44, of Shenstone Avenue, Stourbridge, was sentenced to eight years prison after being found guilty of conspiracy to defraud and pleading guilty to money laundering. On conspiracy to defraud charges: Luke Jiminez, 25, of Atlantic Road, Kingstanding, found guilty and sentenced to eight years in prison.

Amarjit Bagharian, 29, of St Albans Road, Smethwick, Seven years and two months jail. Pleaded guilty



Toby Mann, aged 23, of Stourbridge

Shivjit Bagharian, St Albans Road,

Smylit Bagnarian, St Albains Road, Smethwick. Seven years and two months. Pleaded guilty. Todd Mann, 27, Shenstone ave-nue, Stourbridge. Five years and four months. Pleaded guilty. Richard Buxton, 60, Hom View,

months. Pleaded guilty.
Richard Buxton, 60, Hom View,
Shenstone. Five years, seven months.
Pleaded guilty.
Mandy Castellain, 46, from Oldham. Six years and seven months.
Pleaded guilty.
On money laundering chargese:
Toby Mann, 23, from Shenstone
Avenue, Stourbridge, received an eight-month prison sentence, suspended for 18 months, 150 hours community service and a 12-month supervision order. Pleaded guilty.
David Baylie, 28, of Chatterton
Walk, Kidderminster, was given a
12-month jail sentence suspended for 18 months and 170 hours community service. Pleaded guilty.
Neil Poole, 26, of Sandy Lane,
Wednesbury, received a prison sentence of one year and 20 weeks suspended for 24 months, and 200 hours community service. Pleaded guilty.

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It's full steam ahead as the SVR reopens



Passengers disembark after steam engine 7812 Erlestoke Manor, which served GWR and BR, pulls into Bewdley Station

IT was full steam ahead as the Severn Valley Railway reopened following its winter engineering works.

An array of steam and diesel locomotives were on display

An array of steam and diesel locomotives were on display last Saturday, with visitors also able to soak up the bygone era daily during half term.

Timetable 'A', otherwise known as the blue timetable, will be operating until February 21.It means that the offpeak service will operate two steam-hauled trains during the day, providing more travel opportunities – as they are supported by a diesel-operated train.

Scenery

Visitors can take a leisurely ride in comfy carriages, hauled by an historic steam locomotive to visit the picturesque towns of Bridgnorth and Bewdley, while enjoying the spectacular scenery of the Severn Valley.

The visitor centre at Highley will also be open, which is home to a collection of full-size steam locomotives. Enthusiasts takes a behind-the-scenes look at the locoes as well as delving into the intriguing history of Britain's railways, and experiencing themed exhibitions.

The \$300,000 diesel depot being built by the SVR at Kid.

The £300,000 diesel depot being built by the SVR at Kidderminster is nearing completion and will help to preserve the fleet of heritage diesel locomotives.

Hardest-hit areas get no share of £300m

LOCAL government will receive £300 million to ease funding cuts to central government grants - but cash-strapped local authorities

in the Black Country won't get a penny.
Communities secretary Greg Clark has announced a £150m support scheme for councils in each of the next two years in response to concerns over changes

to funding calculations.

None of the four local
authorities in the Black
Country will receive any of

By Peter Madeley

"All we ask for is
deal, but we're not get the transitional money sparking fury among council

bosses.

Meanwhile, Tory-run
Staffordshire County Council will receive additional
funding of £5.56m over two

years.
The announcement came after the conclusion of the

after the conclusion of the consultation on the provisional Local Government Financial Settlement. Critics say the new relief fund will overwhelmingly help Conservative areas, including the Prime Minister's own Oxfordshire council which is set to get £9m over two years. Dudley Council leader Councillor Pete Lowe said the authority would remain saddled with the largest cuts to funding in its history. "This is another example of decision-making by a gov-

of decision-making by a gov-ernment to benefit its own party," he said.

"All we ask for is a fair deal, but we're not getting

that."

Wolverhampton council's Wolverhampton council s finance chief, Councillor Andrew Johnson, said the settlement 're-emphasised the unfairness' of how the grant was calculated.

Insult

"It is outrageous," he said.
"Richer areas in the South
East, mainly Tory councils
I might add, have had less
cuts yet some of them are
getting extra money. It just
adds insult to injury."
The five most deprived
councils in the country —
Middlesbrough, Knowsley,
Hull, Liverpool and Manchester — will receive nothing. The bigrest beneficiary

chester – will receive nothing. The biggest beneficiary will be Surrey, which gets £24m, with £19m going to Hampshire, £16m to Hertfordshire, £14m to Essex, £12m to West Sussex, £11m to Kent and £9m to Buckinchamshire. inghamshire.



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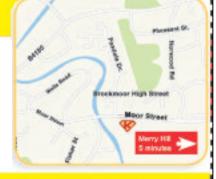
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Cone is where the art is for society's exhibition

A STUNNING selection of paintings are on show at an art exhibition in

are on show at an art exhibition in Wordsley.

The Brierley Hill Society of Art-ists' display at the Red House Glass ists' display at the Red House Glass Cone features more than 75 original pieces of artwork, plus many un-framed prints using watercolours, mixed media and acrylic. Visitors can see a wide variety of work, covering local scenes including the Cone itself, plus Himley Hall, Shropshire towns and places abroad.

Presenter

Other topics include animals, flowers, landscapes and even a car-toon of politician and TV presenter Michael Portillo during his visit to the Red House Glass Cone. Pauline Carroll, the secretary of the society, said this year's exhibi-tion was one of the best yet.

well, we've sold quite a few framed and unframed prints now. There have been a great number of peo-ple come to see us and everyone has made good comments about it.
"I think it's a brilliant space to

"I think it's a brilliant space to have an exhibition and this year has been really good. It seems to improve every year and the quality of the paintings this year is excellent."

Mrs Carroll said exhibition included works by Gill Smith, John Moorfinch and Steve Millward, among others.

Mr Millward sold the most expensive piece so far – for £210. All of the artists' work on display is for sale and prices start at £15.

For more information about the

For more information about the exhibition and other events at the historic venue, go to the website www.redhouseglasscone.co.uk



Gill Smith, Pauline Carroll and Ena Baker at the Brierley Hill District Society of Artists exhibition in Wordsley

Birmingham flights to Qatar from March

NEW flights from Birmingham Airport to Doha in Qatar will be launched at the end of March.
Qatar Airways will begin a service to and from its new Hamad International Airport on March 30.

It marks the fourth UK airport that Qatar operates from and it will initially be offering eight flights a week from Birmingham using a Boeing 787.

Senior vice president for Europe North and South West, Jon Harding, said that Qatar, which currently employs 150 on passenger services and 25 on its cargo team in the UK, was recruiting for a number of new posts based at the airport.

It will take the number of flights out of the UK each week to 73 with the other airports from which it operates being Heathrow, Manchester and Edinburgh.
Mr Harding said that the economic impact of starting flights between Edinburgh and Qatar had added £5 mil-

Mr Harding said that the economic impact of starting flights between Edinburgh and Qatar had added £5 million to the Scottish economy.

"We expect to have a similar or even greater impact on the West Midlands economy," he added. "Birmingham is a market that we are keen to serve."

Thief put behind bars after £40k crime spree

A PROLIFIC thief who stole around £40,000 in a four-month crime spree in Dudley has been jailed.

Lorenzo Brown, aged 22, was described in court as a 'skilled thief' who had shown no remorse for his victims who were left out of pocket.

Among those he targeted were his neighbours whose mailboxes were raided for bank cards and other property.

Brown, of Ripley Grove, Dudley, pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to five counts of theft, four of fraud and one of handling stolen

goods.

Jailing him up for three
years and four months,
Judge Nicholas Webb said:
"You are not only an opportunist thief but also a very
skilful one. You show no remorse."

skilful one. You show no remorse."

Brown was first arrested after stealing a high-performance Audi A4 worth around £30,000 from the Village Hotel in Dudley in October 2014. Brown managed to open a combination-style padlock before stealing a wedding ring, watch and the car keys from a locker.

watch and the car keys from a locker.

He was granted police bail with officers unaware he had also been plundering the bank accounts of his neighbours

Gym

One neighbour lost around £3,500 after Brown intercepted bank cards and PIN numbers for new ac-counts she had opened. He activated the accounts using his own details and then nis own details and then used the card to pay bills, buy takeaway meals and order furniture.

Other items taken from neighbours included bank

neignbours included bank statements, an investment portfolio and another bank card which Brown used to apply for a gym member-ship. He also stole his cousin's wallet, again using a bank card to pay bills and take out car hire agree-ments in his cousin's name.



Prolific thief Lorenzo Brown Brown was convicted by

Brown was convicted by a jury on two counts of theft and one of fraud.

Judge Webb said: "You had moved to a flat in Ripley Grove. There were honest, hardworking people there and unfortunately for them, you as well. Not letting an opportunity to steal go begging, you began to steal items of post from their letter boxes."

ter boxes."

Those offences were committed while on bail for the theft of the locker items and

theft of the locker items and the car.

"Overall you stole property to a value approaching £40,000," said the judge.

"You were involved in the stealing of a wedding ring, watch and car keys from a padlocked locker in a fitness centre. It was a very sophisticated and skilfful theft requiring both speed and requiring both speed and

requiring both speed and nerve."
The court heard Brown had been studying for a de-gree until illness left him in hospital for five months. He was out of work, struggling financially and turned to

Meet author at library

NOVELIST and short story writer Lisa Blower will be visiting Sedgley Library later this month. People are invited to bring a book they love or a book received from a loved one to the free event on Monday, February 29, at 2pm. It is part of the month-long programme of Love your Libraries events in Dudley borough. The Stoke-on-Trent born author's debut novel Sitting Ducks is out next month.



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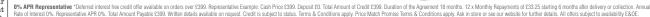












February 18, 2016

Stourbridge Chronicle

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed believes the town has finally recovered from the recession and is moving towards a brighter future after 14 new businesses opened during the last six months.

He was confident of simi-lar success in 2016.

"This influx of new businesses to Dudley town cen-tre is a fantastic start for 2016," he said.

"Dudley is pushing its way through and is doing much better.

Councillor Ahmed said millions of pounds of improvements in the town centre, like the revamp of the market place, had made Dudley a more attrac-tive place to visit and to do

Gala night bid backed

CAMPAIGNERS aiming to save Dudley Hippodrome have been urged to press ahead with a fundraising show featuring comedy veteran Ken Dodd.

Sedgley councillor and Euro MP Bill Etheridge says it is time to press ahead, following the en-

tertainer's promise to help save the venue. "A gala night such as this would provide a boost, giving them some working capital before the grants roll in," said the MEP.

Council get back mosque site as new search begins

THE site of a proposed mosque in Dudley that sparked a decade-long battle is finally back in the hands of the borough council.

Dudley Council confirmed its deal to buy back the Hall Street site from the Dudley Muslim Association (DMA) had been completed – a move that draws a line under a long and bitter row.

Leaders from the DMA say they will now find a new site for a mosque that they say is still desperately needed in

Cash-strapped Dudley Council paid £40,000 to the DMA in order to regain ownership of the land, which will now be put on the market.

Judges

The dispute was finally brought to an end in Oc-tober when appeal judges ruled in favour of the coun-

The amount owed by the council would have been much higher but the DMA was ordered to contribute £114,000 towards the council's length out. cil's legal costs.

A planning application to build a mosque on Hall Street was first submitted in 2003 with the sale of freehold for the land agreed two years later.

But the application was turned down by planning bosses and the ensuing battle put Dudley in the

national spotlight, with far-right groups descending on the town to voice their anger over the mosque plans.

More than 80,000 peo-ple signed petitions against plans for the mosque. The authority spent more than £200,000 on legal costs battling the bid.

Council leader Pete Lowe Council leader Pete Lowe said: "The buy-back deal has now completed and we are just working on the formal legal paperwork process with the Land Registry before the land officially belongs to the council. We expect that to be complete in the next few weeks." in the next few weeks The DMA said it was now

looking forward to entering into discussions with council chiefs about a new mosque chiefs about a new mosque site. Spokesman Amjid Raza also confirmed they would be looking for a central loca-tion, not far from the Cen-tral Mosque on Castle Hill.



FRFF

Outdoor theatre is under way

AN outdoor theatre could open by spring in Dudley town centre as part of a £1 million revamp

The amphitheatre is part of an overhaul of Coronation Gardens in Dudley, opposite
Dudley College's Evolve
campus and Dudley Council
House

Regeneration boss Coun-cillor Khurshid Ahmed said cillor Khurshid Ahmed said he was hopeful the attrac-tion would be ready to host open-air shows in around six weeks.

He explained that the

He explained that the council were waiting for the weather to improve before putting the finishing touches to the project. He said the facility would attract performers from all over the country and would also be used by Dudley College students

lege students.

He added: "We are waiting for the weather to calm down. Come March, once the grounds are cleared up we can start turfing and start to have events there."

FREE

Proposing to pop the

question?

LADIES are being encouraged to pop the question to their partners at Dudley Zoo this leap year.

Staff have put together a special meet-and-greet package for February 29 by offering couples a close-enoffering couples a close-en-counter animal experience.

It is hoped that a bit of animal magic could encour-age the ladies to get down on one knee and gents to say yes. The experience can

say yes. The experience can happen with either giraffes, bats, lemurs, sea lions or tapirs to witness the romantic moment.

Andrea Hales, marketing year which means it's traditional for the women to turn the tables and propose to their loved one on the 29th and where better than doing it among some of the

doing it among some of the world's rarest animals." Packages start from £125 and include a bottle of bub-bly and flowers. Contact 0844 474 2272.

Comedian adds extra town date

COMEDIAN Jimmy Carr has added a second Dud-ley date to his upcoming national tour after tickets sold out for his June show.

Tickets for the extra date added to his 'Best of, Ulti-mate, Greatest Hits' tour - on October 8 at Dudley Town Hall - went on sale

Town Hall – went on sale on Friday. The host of TV's Eight Out Of Ten Cats will be showcasing brand new ma-terial during the tour. His gig in Dudley on June 17 is completely sold out.



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Park's new dinosaur dwarfs T Rex



No eating the visitors - Emily Brooks, head dinosaur keeper at the safari park, with new arrival the Spinosaurus

A HUGE dinosaur has arrived at West Midland Safari Park – in time for half

Reaching a length of almost 50 feet, the new addition to the 'Land of the Living Dinosaurs' – a Spinosaurus – is one of the largest and longest dino-saurs in the exhibit.

Complete with long claws, a fero-cious crocodile-like head and large pointy teeth, the new arrival even makes the park's life-sized Tyranno-saurus Rex look small.

Head dinosaur keeper Emily Brooks said: "Spinosaurus is one of the most recent carnivorous dinosaur discov-eries and will make an incredible

addition to the Land of the Living Dinosaurs. It was ginormous, bigger than T-Rex by a good margin.

continents and millions of years apart.

Like its companions, the Spinosaurus is animatronic, giving visitors

"But it would rarely have been seen on land. Spinosaurus is one of the first on land. Spinosaurus is one of the first dinosaurs palaeontologists have come across that is perfectly adapted for an aquatic life. It had a great long tail, webbed toes on huge paddle-like feet and powerful arms."

Cretaceous

Although both Spinosaurus and T-Rex lived during the Cretaceous period, they would never have had a Jurassic Park-like battle over food or territory, as they lived on different

saurus is animatronic, giving visitors the feeling of walking amongst prehistoric beasts. It is the newest addition to the UK's largest animatronic dinosaur attraction, bringing the number of life-sized, moving dinosaurs to 40.

Land of the Living Dinosaurs reo-pened with the rest of the park near Bewdley for the new season on Satur-Bewaley for the new season on Satur-day, offering Explorers Week for half-term visitors. The park's standard admission charge is £22 for adults, £17 for children (aged 3 to 15) and £20 for concessions. See the website at www. wmsp.co.uk or call 01299 402114.

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Walsall Squadron on a visit to RAF Lyneham during the 70s





Wolverhampton cadets including Ray Simpson with their glide



Miles Messenger aircraft at Monmore Green ATC in 70s



AN ATC Slingsby T.31 glider at RAF Cosford

Air training corps that took off 75 years ago

THE Air Training Corps is celebrating 75 years. It began with the announcement in 1938 of the formation of the Air Defence Ca-

det Corps.
This would give 20,000 boys

This would give 20,000 boys between the ages of 14 and 18 basic instruction in some of the things they would need to know to become airmen.

Air-minded youngsters flocked to join and on January 1, 1941, the Corps was taken over by the Air Ministry and renamed the Air Training Corps, with the motto Venture Adventure.

There were squadrons in almost every town. The boys learned drill

every town. The boys learned drill with Lee-Enfield rifles, Morse Code, astro-navigation principles, aircraft recognition, and many squadrons had an old aircraft on which they could give airfrome in which they could give airframe in-

Cadets went to local RAF stations to be given air experience

For instance Vic Thwaites from For instance vic Inwaites from Brewood who was in D Flight of 1047 Squadron had six flights dur-ing the War, in Wellingtons at RAF Hixon, Ansons at RAF Halfpenny Green and an Oxford at RAF Whe-

aton Aston.

He was also given 15 minutes instruction in a Link ground trainer, and early form of simulator, at RAF Perton.

Level

At an early stage it was decided that cadets should learn to fly, and the pre-war Slingsby Cadet was ordered in large numbers. Sur-prisingly this was single seat, and cadets learned at first to keep the wings level in a ground slide, then did low hops, then higher hops and finally a circuit. finally a circuit.

The airspeed was controlled by the instructor at the controls of

Airport, and after the War moved to RAF Lichfield.

to RAF Lichneid.

Ray Simpson of Fallings Park had a total of 48 instructions on a Cadet glider during 1948 at Lichfield, of which 15 were classed as 'slides', 15 as 'airborne slides', 9 as 'low hops' and 9 as 'high hops'.

Better care presided effort the

low hops' and 9 as 'high hops'.

Better sense prevailed after the
War and two seat gliders were
ordered for instruction, and local
training centred on RAF Cosford.

The ATC still thrives today with

both 1046 and 1047 Squadrons active in Wolverhampton, and other squadrons in Codsall, Sedgeley, Walsall and elsewhere.

The Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre is preparing an exhibition of the ATC's 75 Years, centred on three ATC gliders, and is appealing for the loan of pho-tographs and memorabilia to help tell the full story.

Just pop in to the Centre any

Sunday , or e.mail alecbrew@hotmail.co.uk



Les Broadfield and two other cadets of 1047 Squadron

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T-shirt honour for a football legend

the anniversary of the death of Dud-ley football legend Duncan Edwards, nearly 60 years after the Munich air

Black Country T-Shirts have cre-Black Country T-Shirts have created the tribute to the Dudley-born England and Manchester United star, bearing a quote from United's manager Matt Busby describing him as 'the most complete footballer in Britain, possibly the world'.

Priory Estate-raised Edwards died on February 21, 1958, 15 days after the Munich air disaster on February 6.

The accident during take off by a plane containing the famous Busby Babes had seen seven of Edwards: team mates killed, as were three club officials, eight journalists, two members of the air crew and two other passengers.

The plane crashed on its third attempt to take off at Munich-Riem Airport, as the club was returning from a European Cup match against Red Star Belgrade.

The jet had stopped to refuel but it had been snowing in Munich and the plane over-shot the runway and burst into flames after hitting build-

burst into flames after hitting build-

ings.
Most of the victims died instantly,

but 21-year-old Edwards battled his injuries for more than a fortnight before dying. Matt Busby, who was later knighted, was severely injured but went on to rebuild the team and

but went on to rebuild the team and bring it great success in the 1960s. Founder of Black Country T Shirts Stephen Pitts said: "Having recently moved to Dudley, we are very close to the Duncan Edwards memorial statue. With the anniversary of the crash and his subsequent death on February 21, we thought it would be fitting to make something to keep him in mind. I think it is a great tribute for a great footballer."

"We wanted to learn more about a local hero and what better way to

a local hero and what better way to remember him than a commemorative T-shirt."

The company was founded in 2007 by Mr Pitts and Warren McCa-be-Smith, and with its slogans has attracted sales from Black Country expatriates in the USA, Canada and

Meanwhile, a nilm teiling the story of Duncan Edwards will be screened to raise funds towards saving the Dudley Hippodrome. Documentary 'And Then Came Munich' is being shown at the Cable Plaza Cafe, The Waterfront, Brierley Hill, on March 4, at 7pm with entrance costing £5.



Phil Carter from Netherton, who works with Black Country T-Shirts, shows off the Duncan Edwards design

Time is called on benefits fraud by woman pub worker

A FORMER pub landlady who swindled the public purse out of £26,000 – claiming she couldn't wash and dress herself before being caught pulling pints – has been handed a suspended prison sentence.

Elaine Gordon was also seen loading her car with heavy stock while claiming state disability benefits. The 59-year-old was filmed by the Department of Work and Pensions at the Prince of Wales pub in Tipton Road, Dudley, at the Riddins Tavern and at Makro wholesalers in Halesowen. At Wolverhampton Crown Court last week she was sentenced to eight months in prison, susended for two vears, and given a 12-month prison, suspended for two years, and given a 12-month

prison, suspended for two years, and given a 12-month supervision order.

She started dishonestly claiming in December 2009 when running The Boat Inn in Cradley Heath, and carried it on until 2014, when she was filmed pouring 50 pints in an hour during a televised World Cup match.

She claimed that she had Raynaud's Disease, arthritis

and varicose veins, and needed care seven days a week to help with washing herself, cooking, dressing and going to the toilet.

Prosecutor Richard Davenport said: "She stated she rrosecutor Kichard Davenport said: "She stated she was unable to work and virtually unable to walk. On September 17, 2014, she was interviewed, and accepted she wasn't entitled to what she was being paid."

Gordon, of Madehurst Road, Birmingham, had previously admitted failing to notify the authorities of a change in circumstances.

Defence barrister John Evans said: "Her medication plaved a big part in her improvement."

played a big part in her improvement.

Mother, 70, wakes after 16 days

A PENSIONER who was struck down by a devastating brain disease which put her in a coma for 16 days has now regained conciousness.

Her family are delighted that she is awake but are aware that she has a long road to recovery ahead.

Jeanette Powell, aged 70, enjoyed an active lifestyle before she was hit with encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain, last October, a condition which almost claimed her life.

Doctors told her family to prepare for the worst, but against all odds, she awoke

from her coma. Rehabilitation for Mrs

Rehabilitation for Mrs Powell, aged 70, from Wall Heath, Kingswinford, will be lengthy, and she faces a future of constant care. Lisa Slater, her daugh-ter, aid: "My mum, a fit and healthy 70-year-old, felt un-well with flu-like symptoms. She began hallucinating and was admitted to heavital

was admitted to hospital. "Within 48 hours she was in critical care, in a coma, on a life support machine. As a family, we prepared for the

"However, 16 days later, mom woke up and opened her eyes, to the amazement of the medical staff."

Uncertain

Lisa added: "We as a family have a long road ahead of us, our lives have changed for ever.

Survivors of encephalitis can face an uncertain future as it the condition can often rob them of their memories. Abilities such as concentration and judgement can also

tion and judgement can also be affected.

Mrs Powell, who used to run Wall Heath Community Centre, has now been moved to West Park Rehabilitation Hospital, where she will remain there for many months.

Lisa said: "She has relegared how to use her left.

lisa said: She has re-learned how to use her left side and can now eat. How-ever, she is very confused, needs to learn to walk again and is under constant care.

bacterial meningitis and yet remains less well known."
See www.worldencepha
litisday.org

Australia.

Meanwhile, a film telling the story



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Exhibition builds on toy memories



The Meccano Number 1 set, from 1939 (pic Cat Fuller)

Lego model of the University Technical College

to elaborate Lego landscapes, a new exhibition takes visitors on a journey through the last 170 years of toy construction kits.

Assembled Dreams: A History of Building Toys at Wolver-hampton Art Gallery features a range of classic toys collected by the city council's arts and heritage service, and well as leans from the author and toy. loans from the author and toy historian Brian Salter.

The collection features more than two dozen different construc-

construction kits, reports MARION BRENNAN

tion kits and models spanning more than a century of history. It charts developments from the wooden blocks used by the German Kindergarten movement in the 1840s right through to Lego Architecture, introduced in 2008. It also explains bow Lego be

It also explains how Lego be-came the largest toy maker in the world, and how the plastic interlocking brick so commonly associated with the Danish man-ufacturer was first devised in the

mid-1930s by British toy maker Kiddicraft.

Kiddicraft.

The Lego Group began in 1916, creating wooden toys out of a carpentry shop in Denmark.

But after the Second World War, when plastic became the new big

when plastic became the new big thing. Lego bosses bought a plas-tic mould injector from a salesman who showed them what a British toy-maker was doing.

He was Hilary Fisher Page who had created, and legally patented, a plastic building block. But Lego just took the design without ever getting in touch with Page.

Hollow

Hollow

Over the years they refined it—
the official birth of what is really
the modern Lego came in 1958,
when they added the hollow tubes
on the underside to help with interlocking.

But the design remains that
taken from Kiddicraft.
Page's daughter has said her father died before finding out about
Lego, and certainly before it became one of the biggest brands in
the history of toys.
Ironically, Lego has since become an aggressive litgator against

romeany, Lego has since be-come an aggressive litgator against brands it sees as stealing its de-signs, becoming embroiled in nu-merous legal battles, including a famous fight with Tyco in the early 1980s which Lego lost. A highlight of the show is an im-

pressive model made by students from the West Midlands Construc-

Events assistant supervisor Michelle Hallard with building blocks

tion University Technical College of its £70 million new home, currently being built at the site of the former Springfield Brewery.

Work started at the 12-acre plot in September. The college, which will offer 14 to 18-year-olds technical, practical and academic courses, is due to open later this year and will eventually take 600 students.

Councillor John Reynolds, cabinet member for city economy,

inet member for city economy, said: "Building toys have been part of the childhood experience

of everyone who has grown up in the industrial age. From the simple efforts of ba-bies to pile blocks one on another to adult hobbyists' drive to build

to adult hobbyists' drive to build ever more complex models, construction kits play a key role in teaching us about how to build. "This exhibition will not only be a fascinating trip down memory lane for people young and old, but may also encourage a few visitors to dust off their old Meccano sets and get building."

It runs until March 5.



An interwar house made using Bayko (pic Brian Salter)





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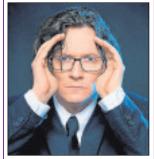
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Paul Carrack Sat at 7.30pm, £28.50 - £38.50 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

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Tonight (Thu), 7pm O2 Institute, B'ham The New York rocker returns after two album releases last year, New York Before The War and Outsiders, and a reissue for his 2002 debut. Don DiLego and Trapper Schoepp support. www.o2institutebirmingham.co.uk

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Hinds



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Chris Martin: This Show Has A

Soundtrack Fri at 7.30pm, mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

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Carl Hutchinson & Jain Stirling Thu at 8pm - 11pm,
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Sandi Toksvig: Politically Incorrect - SOLD OUT Tue at 7.30pm, Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

OTHER EVENTS

Caravan Camping & Motorhome Show 2016 Tue at 10am - 6pm, Wed at 10am - 6pm, Thu at 10am - 6pm, The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

THEATRE

The Gilded Merkin Sun at 6pm - 11pm, £15 The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Jersey Boys Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

The Lost Things Fri at 11.30am, 2.30pm, 11.30am, 2.30pm mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

The Musicians Thu at 7.30pm, Stafford Gatehouse Theatre

ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Impossible Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,

Breaking The Code By Hugh Whitemore Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DV10 2RX.

Single Spies Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 2pm, 7pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,

Birmingham Repertory Thea B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Thu at 8pm, Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

ZooNation: Into The Hoods: Remixed

Jukebox Sixties Show

DY10 1DB. Call 01562 732158

Fri at 7.30pm, Kidderminster Town Hall,

Birmingham Royal Ballet: The Dream & A Month In The Country Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £10 - £26

Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB, Call 0844 338 5000

Theatre,

7.30pm, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Call 01562 743745

Flying Solo

The Odyssey Mon at 4.30pm, 7pm, mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

40 Days In 40 Minutes Sat at 5pm, mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232 Kelly Oliver Wed at 7.30pm - 10.30pm. Kitchen Garden Cafe, Birmingham, B14 7SA. Call 0121 443 4725

Cash: Johnny Cash Tribute Sat at 7pm, O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Tue at 7.30pm - 11pm, The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Vula Viel Thu at 8.30pm - 10.30pm, Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

Room 4 the Blues - Session

Fri at 8pm The Claregate Function Room, Wolverhampton, WV6 9ED.

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

The Acoustic Sessions

Tue at 8.30pm, Free The Jam House,

Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

Tru Groove Fri at 11pm, Sat at 11pm,

82 - O2

Will Varley Thu at 7pm, Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Rising Stars: Quatuor Zaide Mon at 6pm - 9.30pm, £10 Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333 Sarah Nicolls: Moments Of

Weightlessness Fri at 1.10pm, Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

The Great Songs Of Musical Theatre
Sun at 7.30pm,
Birmingham Town Hall,
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

Lunchtime Organ Concert: Thomas Trotter Mon at 1pm, Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO Youth Orchestra: Rachmaninov's Second Sun at 7pm, £20

Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Check out full listings in the ticket in Friday's Express & Star

Bard puts spring in step for ballet

THIS spring's 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare has inspired Birmingham Royal Ballet's spring season in the

Company's home city.

Last seen on the Birmingham Hippodrome stage with their sumptuous annual festive treat The Nutcracker, BRB return with a programme of three ballets, including two based on plays by the Bard.

BRB is featuring a double bill of Sir Frederick Ashton's classic works, which includes his 1964 ballet The Dream, based on Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, which opens the company's year-long Shakespeare commemoration. The Dream will be paired with the famous choreographer's 1976 ballet A Month In The Country, being performed for the first time by Birmingham Roys. being performed for the first time by Birmingham Royal

A Month In The Country was one of the last works Frederick Ashton made for The Royal Ballet and is set to stir-

erick Ashton made for The Royal Ballet and is set to surring music by Chopin.

The company's spring programme will also feature a revival of Kenneth Macmillan's full length classic ballet Romeo and Juliet.

The Dream and A Month In The Country opened last night (Wednesday) and runs until Saturday. Romeo and Juliet will be presented from February 24 to 27.

Elegant

BRB spokeswoman Claire Lishman says: "In The Dream, BKB spokeswoman Claire Lishman says: "In The Dream, love gets out of hand for mortals and fairies alike in an elegant and witty distillation of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Alongside it, we offer A Month In The Country, inspired by Turgenev's play. Ashton captures the mood of the play through exquisite dance in this moving account of unrequired love."

mood of the play through exquisite dance in this moving account of unrequited love."

On Romeo and Juliet, Ms Lishman adds: "Love at first dance, forbidden passions, dangerous secrets and fate combine in an exhilarating classic ballet."

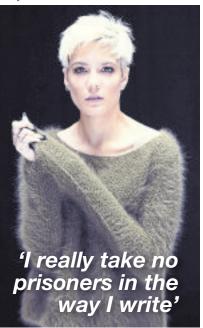
Set to Prokofiev's soaring score, Romeo and Juliet tells

the familiar tale of two young lovers at the mercy of power-ful families and their own hearts. From the balcony scene's ecstatic pas de deux to the heart-breaking end, Romeo and Juliet has been an audience favourite since its first per-formance 51 years ago, when Margot Fonteyn and Rudolf Nureyev received 43 curtain calls.



Star-crossed dancers – Birmingham Royal Ballet's Jenna Roberts as Juliet and Iain Mackay as Romeo Photo: Roy Smiljanic

Other highlights will include John Cranko's adaptation of The Taming of the Shrew for performance at the Hippodrome from June 16 to 18; and BRB Company Director David Bintley unveiling the world premiere of his interpre-



Honesty best Halsey policy

HALSE'I nad an awesome 2015. The singer and songwriter from New Jersey, real name Ashley Nicolette Frangipane, topped polls for best breakthrough act, got to No2 in the US chart with debut album Baldands, was special guest on Justin Bieber's track The Feeling and sold out New York's Madisons Surger Code 2015.

Justin Bieber's track The Feeling and sold out New York's Madison Square Garden.

Still only 21, the one-girl-phenomenon is about to release her latest track New Americana and perform her first gig in Birmingham, at the O2 Academy on Saturday, as part of a sold-out UK tour. Just two years ago she was playing acoustic cover sets at random bars in the American north-east, having left high school with a desire to become a musician.

Early in 2014 everything changed because of one song, the appropriately haunting Ghost. She says: "Everyone I know in music was like 'the song starts with bridge and it's two minutes and 34 seconds long, you're making a mistake, that's not a single, that's not going to get anyone's attention'." Clearly her 70,000-plus Twitter followers who promptly downloaded it disagreed.

ner 10,000-juis i witter followers who prompuly downloaded it disagreed.

"People say I blew up over night," she says. "It took me two years. Sometimes I would be in the middle of Boston at 4am and would ask someone over Twitter if I could stay at their house."

Her music is autobiographical with places, names, even discons left in text.

alogue left intact.

"I'm open about talking about certain things that others may keep quiet," she says. "I want my music to be really authentic, candid, honest. I really take no prisoners in the way I write."

Some enchanted evening with CBSO

TOMORROW'S Friday Night Classics concert in Birmingham sees the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra paying tribute to Broadway legends Rodgers and Hammerstein.

Martin Yates will conduct the CBSO at the 7:30pm concert in Symphony Hall. They will be joined by the University of Birmingham Voices for songs from South Pacific, Carousel, The King and I, The Sound of Music and Oklahoma!

Special guests will include

and Oklahoma!
Special guests will include
West End singers Robyn North,
Sally Ann Triplet, Olivier Award
nominated Michael Xavier and
former Phantom Scott Davies.

See www.thsh.co.uk or call 0121 345 0600.

Singers' songs with a message

FANS of singer-songwriters can catch up with some class acts.

Jesse Malin fine tunes songs from his reissued 2002 debut The Fine Art of Self-Destruction at the O2 Institute tonight (Thursday). Then tomorrow Lucy Spraggan plays songs from her We Are album at the O2

Academy, also in Birmingham.
Paul Carrack, of How Long
and The Living Years fame, is
in concert at the Symphony Hall

on Saturday.

Protest singer and acoustic guitar troubadour Will Varley, who has supported The Proclaimers and Frank Turner, is at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath on February 25.

Foals galloping to stadium status

OXFORD band Foals play Birmingham Barclaycard Arena tomorrow night (Friday), the success of fourth album What Went Down having propelled them to stadium status. Don't miss support from quirky art-pop outfit Everything Everything. Other highlights include Mys-

tery Jets with songs from sixth and best so far album Curve Of The Earth at the O2 Institute in Digbeth tonight (Thursday).

On Saturday the notorious Fat White Family are at the O2 Institute, the same night Dudley outfit EofE play Wolver-hampton's Slade Rooms. Blur-ryface duo Twenty One Pilots are at O2 Academy on Tuesday.



AMAZING MARCH OFFERS



Valid only until nday 22 February 2016

Date	Tour	Nights	Brochure£	Save £	Special	Date	Tour	
					Offer£			
04	London Theatre – SUNNY AFTERNOON Inc Afternoon Tea Cruise	2	225.00	50.00	175.00	15	P&O Cruise to Holland – Meals, Live Entertainment & Amsterdam	
04	London Theatre –	2	225.00	30.00	195.00	18	Torquay	
	LES MISERABLES						6 Course Dinners & Live Entertainment	
04	London Theatre – WAR HORSE	2	225.00	30.00	195.00	18	Hampton Court	
04	Hampton Court Palace – Florimania, Bluebell Steam Railway & Brighton	2	165.00	15.00	150.00	18	Railway	
05	Mystery Weekend	1	89.50	10.00	79.50	10	CHARLIE & THE	
05	Murder Mystery	1	95.00	10.00	85.00		CHOCOLATE	
05	Inc Salisbury & Winchester	1	95.00	10.00	85.00		FACTORY OR MAMMA MIA	
07	Isle of Wight - Shanklin	4	199.50	10.00	189.50		Inc Afternoon Tea Cruise	
11	London Theatre – WOMAN IN BLACK	2	195.00	40.00	155.00	18	London Theatre – BEAUTIFUL	
11	London Theatre – GUYS & DOLLS	2	225.00	50.00	175.00	19	London Theatre – BILLY ELLIOT OR WICKED	
11	Peak District & Kedleston Hall	2	159.50	10.00	149.50	24	Luxembourg	
11	Brooklands &	2	169.50	10.00	159.50		Easter Departure	
	Blenheim Palace					25	London Theatre – MOTOWN	
11	Wonders of Wiltshire	2	139.50	10.00	129.50			
12	London Theatre - PHANTOM OF THE OPERA	1	139.50	14.50	125.00	26	Paris at Easter Hilton Hotel	
						26	Lake Garda - Italy	
12	Murder Mystery	1	95.00	10.00	85.00	28	Inc Venice	
14	Valkenburg, Holland	3	235.00	35.50	199.50	28	Bruges Downton Abbey	

			New Bookings Only					
Date	Tour	Nights	Brochure£	Save £	Special Offer£			
15	P&O Cruise to Holland – Meals, Live Entertainment & Amsterdam	2	159.50	10.00	149.50			
18	Torquay 6 Course Dinners & Live Entertainment	3	189.50	30.00	159.50			
18	Hampton Court Palace & Steam Railway	2	165.00	10.00	155.00			
18	London Theatre – CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY OR MAMMA MIA Inc Afternoon Tea Cruise	2	225.00	25.50	199.50			
18	London Theatre – BEAUTIFUL	2	225.00	25.50	199.50			
19	London Theatre – BILLY ELLIOT OR WICKED	1	149.50	24.50	125.00			
24	Luxembourg Easter Departure	4	275.00	25.00	250.00			
25	London Theatre – MOTOWN	2	225.00	15.00	210.00			
26	Paris at Easter Hilton Hotel	3	235.00	40.00	195.00			
26	Lake Garda - Italy Inc Venice	7	525.00	30.00	495.00			
28	Bruges	3	235.00	40.00	195.00			
29	Downton Abbey	2	199.50	10.00	189.50			



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Knockout Darts

£100 + Prize Money. £5 entrance. Food available all day. Burgers, Hot Pork Sandwiches, Chips, Cobs



EVENTS

It doesn't matter what day it is, there's always something going on at the Sammy. From karaoke to pool competitions, bingo to live music, you'll find something to suit your mood.

We also hold a popular music festival a couple of times a year and plans are underway to create a Folk/ Jazz club in the cellar bar (musicians get in touch!).

Here's what a typical week entails at the Samson and



BAND REHEARSALS / MEETING ROOM **FUNCTION ROOM FOR HIRE**

Karaoke unless function prohibits.

Saturdays Bonus Ball Pay-out and many functions.

Meat Raffle - Drawn at 1 pm. £1 per strip for a chance of 3 or more prizes. Free bar snacks.

With homemade food and a wide selection of beers, ciders, wines and spirits on offer, every night offers something different.

Why not join us?

Burger and a Pint

SAMSON AND LION BRIERLEY HILL ROAD, WORDSLEY, STOURBRIDGE, WEST MIDLANDS DY8 5SP

CHOICE



Rose Farguhar

The Voice UK (ITV. 7.15pm)

It's the final round of blind auditions and it's bound to be a tense time for all as the coaches fill the last few places on their teams. Paloma Faith. Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson will only want the best singers to take through to next week's battle rounds, when their acts will be pitted against each other in head-to-head knockout performances. This week's prospective stars are teenager Faith Nelson, barefoot vegan Rachel Ann, soldier Dave Barns, hairdresser Aaron Hill and Londoner Rose Farquhar, all of whom take to the stage in the hopes of progressing to the next round of the contest.

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 1.00 Live Athletics: Glasgow Indoor Grand Prix. Coverage of the meeting from Emirates Arena. 4.30 BBC News. 4.45 Regional Programme. 4.55 MOTD Live: The FA . Bournemouth v Everton (Kick-off

7.15 The Voice UK. It's the final round The Voice UK. It's the final cound of bind auditions and it's bound to be a tense time for all as the coaches fill the last few places on their teams. Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.am and Ricky Wilson will only want the best singers to take through to next week's battle rounds, when their acts will be pitted against each other in head-to-head knockout performances. This week's prospective stars are teenager Faith Nelson, barefoot vegan Rachel Ann, sodiler Dave Barns, hairdresser Aaron Hill and Londoner Rose Farquhar, all of whom take to the stage in the nopes of progressing to the next round of the contest.

The National Lottery: Win Your

round of the contest.

3.5 The National Lottery: Win Your
Wish List. Married couple Mike
and Clina from Withshire include a
dream honeymoon on their perfect
prize wishlist, and Shane Richie
challenges them to answer
questions in various categories to
win their chosen items. Plus, Gaby
Roslin is joined by guest Pixie
Lott, performs live, and pushes the
all important button for the Lotto
and Thunderball draws.

9.25 Casualty. Connie needs to prove

and Thunderball draws.

9.25 Casualty. Connie needs to prove her love for Grace, but has little time, and singer Hannah Spearritt returns as the mugger who attacked Noel, this time mixed up in a drugs deal.

10.15 BBC News; Weather.

10.35 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Gabby Logan presents action from the latest FA Cup fifthround fles, including Arsenal v Hull City at Emirates Stadium, and Watford v Leeds United at Vicarage Road.

11.35 Film: Shanghai Noon. (2000) A

11.35 Film: Shanghai Noon. (2000) A 19th-century imperial guard to the Emperor of China is flung into the Wild West on a mission to rescue a kidnapped princess. Comedy Western, starring Jackie Chan.

1.20 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.25 BBC News.

RRC2

6.00 Animal Park. (R) 7.00 Film: This Land is Mine. (1943) 8.40 Film: The b.uu Animai Park. (1) 7.uu Film: Inis Land is Mine. (1943) 8.40 Film: The Deadly Companions. (1961) 10.10 Lobo: The Wolf That Changed America. (R) 12.00 James Martin: Hat Changed America. (R) 12.00 James Martin: Hots India. (R) 1.48 Espage to the Country. (R) 2.30 Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R) 3.30 Earth's Greats Spectacles. (R) 4.30 Final Score. 5.15 Fingl It (R) 5.30 Back in Time for the Weekend. (R) 4.30 Final Score. 5.15 Fingl It (R) 5.30 Back in Time for the Weekend. (R) 4.30 they take drastic action in a bid to appear younger – with Mainwaring even wearing a toupe. Comedy first aired in 1972, starring Arthur Lowe, John Le Messurier and Clive Dunn. (R)
7.00 Film: Cast Away. (2000) A

7.00 Film: Cast Away. (2000) A manager for an American courier service has to fend for himself when a plane crash leaves him when a plane crash leaves him stranded alone on a desert island. Initially panic-stricken, he overcomes his terror to survive for four years on his own before building a raft and setting off on an epic journey back home. Adventure drama, starring Tom Hanks, Helen Hunt, Nick Searcy, Lari White and Chris Noth. Killian's Indian Adventure Fx-

9.15 Kipling's Indian Adventure. Ex-Kipling's Indian Adventure. Ex-soldier and author Patrick Hennessey follows the journey the 16-year-old Rudyard Kipling made to India in 1882. Retracing Kipling's voyage from Lahore in modern-day Pakistan to the north Indian hill station of Simila, known as the summer capital of British India, Hennessey explores how the young author's encounters with various rulers, officers, subattems and the common-folk they ruled - and the common-folk they ruled - came to inform his Nobel Prize-vinning literature.

10.15 Live at the Apollo. Russell Kane comperes an evening of stand-up at London's Hammersmith Apollo, performing himself and introducing routines by guests Roisin Conaty and Nick Helm. (R)

11.00 Film: The Ides of March. (2011) presidential campaign worker must decide where his loyalties lie as dark secrets come to light. Drama, directed by and starring George Clooney. With Ryan Gosling.

12.35 Film: Surviving Summer. (2009) 2.00 This Is BBC Two.

6.00 CiTV: Bottom Knocker Street. 6.15
Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6.25 Ugned
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.50 Ugned
Stories: Share a Story. (R) 6.55 Sootly.
(R) 7.05 Ugned 4. (R) 7.15 Looped. (R)
7.30 Scrambled! Scrambled! 7.35
Scrambled! Scrambled! Horrid
Series. (R) 7.50 Scrambled! Horrid
Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled! Series. 9.05
Scrambled! The Tom 8.4 Jerry Show. (R)
9.25 Murder, Sho Wrote. (R) 10.15 The
Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.20 ITN News;
Weather. 12.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
(R) 1.30 Judge Rinder. (R) 2.35 Tipping
Point. (R) 3.35 The Chase. (R) 4.35
Regional Programme; Weather 4.45 ITV
News; Weather. 5.00 Film: Despicable
Me 2. (2013) Premiere. A reformed
criminal mastermind who has
abandoned his wicked ways for a life of
fatherhood and jam-making helps a
secert agent to bring one of his fellow
evil geniuses to justice. The villain in
question has stolen a dangerous
experimental serum with the power to
turn harmless animals into ravening
monsters. Animated comedy sequel,
with the voice of Steve Carel.
1.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night
Takeaway. New series. The

7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night
Takeaway. New series. The
presenter duo return with their live
entertainment show, with Michael
Sheen serving as guest announce
and Wet Wet Taking part in
toinight's Singalegoal his

tonight's Singalong Live.

8.30 Take Me Out. An athlete from lake Me Uut. An athlete from Birmingham, a mechanic from Edinburgh, a Bedfordshire-based golfing coach and a potato-farmer from Co Down seek to win over Paddy McGuinness's 30 single women.

9 45 The Jonathan Ross Show The Jonathan Ross Show.
Twilight Saga and Cuckoo star
Taylor Lautner joins Jonathan in
the studio, along with comedy
actor and broadcaster Rob
Brydon, and Australian-born UK
tennis star Johanna Konta, who
made headlines back in January she became the first female British player to reach a Grand Slam's quarter-finals since 1984.

10.45 ITV News; Weather 10.4911 News; weather.

11.00 Film: Nutly Professor II: The Klumps. (2000) Bumbling scientist Sherman Klump tries to rid himself of his troublesome after ego Buddy Love, but his experiment backfires. Comedy sequel, with Eddie Murphy.

12.55 Jackpot247. 3.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Frostgun Invitational. 7.05 Freeride World Tour. 7.30 The Grid. 8.00 World Tour. 7.30 The Grid. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 The Morning Line. 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.30 The Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The In Surpsons. (R) 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot, Haydock Park and Wincanton. 4.00 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.00 Come Dine With

6.00 Come Dine with Me. The final

Me. (H)

dinner party in Suffolk is hosted by anti-social behaviour officer Rachel, who hopes to win over her guests with an evening of comfort food and a few tricks up her sleeve. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales journey along the "London Ring", as it's known to narrowbeat lovers, in a voyage of discovery through their home ofty. Starting in Brentford, they foliow the Union Canal, and then the Tegent's Canal until it meets the Thames at Limehouse. Along the way, they meet up with fellow actors Andrew Sachs and Ian McKellen, and visit the cemetry at Kensal Green, where their old friend, playwright Harold Pinter, is buried. (R)

8.00 Penelope Keith's Hidden

Pinter, is buried. (H)

8.00 Penelope Keith's Hidden

Villages. The actress learns about life in Cumbria, explores areas including Coniston, Morecambe Bay and Grasmere, and meets a community buying a local mountain.

g. of Film: RoboCop. (2014) Premiere. A corporation that creates military robots seizes a chance to diversify into law enforcement when a Detroit cop is critically injured in a bombing. He is rebuilt as a crime-fighting cyborg, but struggles to regain his free will from his s creators' control. Sci-fi thriller remake, starring Joel Kinnaman.

remake, starring Joel Kinnaman.

11.26 Film: Apocalypto. (2006) A
Mayan tribesman captured for
human sacrifice escapes into the
jungle in a bid to save his family.
Mel Gibson's historical adventure,
starring Rudy Youngbloud.

1.50 Hollyoaks. (R) 3.55 Undercover
Boss USA. (R) 4.45 Kirstie's Handmade
Treasures. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 8.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 9.30 The Saturday Show Live. 11.30 Furniest Falls, Falls & Flops. (R) 12.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 2.00 Can't Pay? Well Take It Away. (R) 3.00 Can't Pay? Well Take It Away. (R) 4.00 Can't Pay? Well Take It Away. (R) 5.00 Can't Pay? Well Take It Away. (R) 5.00 Can't Pay? Well Take It Away. (R)

7.55 The Gadget Show.

The Gadget Show. Jason Ine dadget show. Jason Bradbury, Amy Williams, Ortis Deley and Jon Bentley report from CES in Las Vegas, the world's largest consumer tech show, revealing the must-have gadgets of 2016. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.
9.00 The Championship: Football
League Tonight. Kelly Cates and
George Riley present extended
highlights of the weekend's matches in the Championship, including Cardiff City v Brighton & Hove Albion and Brentford v Derby County.

County.

10.00 Goal Rush: Football League
Tonight. Kelly Cates and George
Riley present a round-up of all the
goals and talking points from
League One and League Two,
including Barnsley v Doncaster Rovers and Barnet v AFC Wimbledon.

10.25 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Benson and Stabler are faced with a dilemma when a child abuse suspect offers to reveal the identity of a controversial civil rights group's leader in exchange for an amnesty. (R)

amnesty. (R)

11.20 Law & Order: Special Victims
Unit. A couple are found murdered
in a truck, prompting the
detectives to investigate a Mexican
drug cartel linked to one of the
victims—but the case proves more
complex than expected. (R)

12.15 SuperCasino. 3.10 Never Teach
Your Wife to Drive. (R) 4.00 Police
Interceptors. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 How Earth Made Us 8.00 The Inca:
Masters of the Clouds 9.00 Trapped
10.40 Rod Stewart Live at Hyde Park
11.40 Imagine – Rod Stewart: Can't Stop
Me Now 1.05 The Joy of Easy Listening
2.35 Top of the Pops: 1981 3.15 Sounds
of the Eighties 3.45 Close

ITV2

11.05 Ninja Warrior UK 12.10 Scorpion
1.05 Film: The Perfect Man (2005) 3.05
Film: Along Came Polly (2004) 4.50
Catchphrase 5.35 Film: The Mummy:
Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2004)
7.45 Film: After Earth (2013) 9.45 Take
Me Out – The Gossip 10.45 biza
Weekender 11.45 The Kelth Lemon
Sketch Show 12.20 Film: Scary Movie V
(2013) 1.55 Beowulf: Return to the
Shieldlands 2.45 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2
Nightscreen

11V3
2.35 Sherlock Holmes: The Eligible
Bachelor 2.45 The Memoirs of Sherlock
Holmes 3.55 Berlie and Elizabeth 6.00
Midsomer Murders 10.00 Lewis 12.00
Midsomer Murders 10.00 Lewis 12.00
Blue Murder 1.35 Man About the House
2.00 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30
Teleshopping
ITV4

ITV4
11.00 Storage Wars 11.25 Storage Wars:
Texas 1.25 Storage Wars 2.20 Film:
Death of a Guntighter (1969) 4.15 Film:
Superman (1978) 7.10 Film: Police
Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol (1987)
9.00 Film: Collateral Damage (2002)
11.10 Film: Total Recall (1990) 1.30
Film: Child's Play 2 (1990) 3.00
Telestopping
F4

E4
1.30 The Goldbergs 12.30 Rude(ish)
Tube 1.30 The Jump 3.00 Film: Furry
Vengeance (2010) 4.50 Rude(ish) Tube
Shorts 5.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00
Film: Friends with Benefits (2011) 11.15
Gogglebox 1.25 Virtually Farous 2.15
The Inbetweeners 3.05 The IT Crowd
3.55 New Girl 4.20 Brooklyn Nine-Nine
4.40 Revenge

Film4
11.00 Dr Seuss' The Lorax (2012) 1.00
Step Up 3 (2010) 3.10 Journey to the
Center of the Earth (2008) 5.05 The Day
the Earth Stood Still (2008) 7.10 Just
Married (2003) 9.00 About a Boy (2002)
A womaniser who poses as a father to
meet single women changes his ways
after befriending a lonely youngster.
Romantic comedy, with Hugh Grant, Toil
Collette and Nicholas Hoult, 11.00 The
Man with the Iron Fists (2012) Martial
arts adventure, starring R2A. 12.50
Sinister (2012) 3.05 Close

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Tom Hiddleston

The Night Manager (BBC1, 9pm)

New series. Adaptation of John Le Carre's novel, starring Tom Hiddleston, Olivia Colman and Hugh Laurie. A former soldier working in a Cairo hotel discovers evidence against international arms dealer Richard Roper, but his attempt to help British intelligence to capture the criminal has disastrous consequences. Five years later, he is based in Switzerland, working at a hotel that he discovers is regularly frequented by Roper. Determined to make amends for his previous failure, he reunites with his contact at British intelligence and they form a plan to infiltrate the arms dealer's inner circle.

6.00 Breakfast. 8.00 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show: 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Regional Programme: 12.00 Bargain Hunt. (R): 1.00 BBC News: Weather: 1.15 Songs of Praise: 1.50 Lifeline: 2.00 Escape to the Country. (R): 1.00 BBC News: Weather: 1.15 Songs of Praise: 1.50 Lifeline: 2.00 Escape to the Country. (R): 3.30 MOTD Live: The FA Cup. Chelsea v Manchester City (Kick-off 4.00pm).

6.00 BBC News.

- 6.00 BBC News.
 6.15 Regional Programme.
 6.25 Dickensian. Arthur visits Fagin and acquires the services of Bill Sikes in the hope he can put a stop to the wedding, while Compeyson makes a heartfelt confession to Amelia. Last in the series.
 7.15 Countryfile. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison explore Staffordshire, visiting a farming school and a barn owl reserve. Plus, a report on a possible treatment for an incurable tree disease. Including incurable tree disease. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
- 8.00 Call the Midwife. Poplar is rocked by a series of violent attacks on by a series of violent attacks on women, and a prostitute is too ashamed to report what she knows – but her actions lead to a dangerous man roaming the streets, with devastating consequences for the residents of Nonnatus House. A mother tries to keep her daughter's prepnancy a secret to avoid gosslip, butting her life in danger. The Turners go on a long overdue holiday, but the weather ruins their plans.
- 9.00 The Night Manager. New series. Adaptation of John Le Carre's novel, starring Tom Hiddleston. A former soldier has a chance encounter with an arms dealer, and helps British intelligence to capture him.

10.00 BBC News

10.20 Hegional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup
Highlights. Action from today's
fifth-round fixtures, which were
Blackburn Rovers v West Ham
United, Tottenham Hotspur v
Crystal Palace, and Chelsea v
Manchester City.

manufaster City.

11.15 The Super League Show: World
Club Series Special. Tanya Arnold
presents action from the World
Club Series, featuring three
matches.

12.00 Film: The Walker. (2007) 1.40 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.45 BBC News.

RRC2

6.20 The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R)
7.05 The Secret History of the British
Garden. (R) 8.05 An Island Parish. (R)
8.35 Countryfile. (R) 9.30 Saturday
Kitchen Best Bites: 1.00 Jannes Martin:
Home Comforts. (R) 11.45 The Best
Dishes Ever. (R) 12.15 Film: Nicholas
and Alexandra. (1971) Fact-based Jayston. 3.15 Flog It! (R) 3.45 Bobsleigh and Skeleton World Championships. 5.15 Ski Sunday.

- 5.15 Ski Sunday.
 6.00 MOTD: FA Cup 6th Round Draw.
 Mark Chapman presents coverage of the quarter-final draw, as the remaining eight clubs learn who they will face, with a Wembley semi-final awaiting the winners.
- 6.20 Film: I Am Number Four. (2011) A teenager with special powers is forced to live as a fugitive, constantly moving from place to place with his protector to avoid aliens who seek to destroy him. aliens who seek to destroy him. His normadic existence is threatened when he falls in love, just as he begins to realise the origin of his extraordinary abilities. Sci-fi thriller, starring Alex Pettyfer, Timothy Olyphant and Teresa Palmer.
- Palmer.

 8.00 Dragons' Den. Deborah Meaden, Nick Jenkins, Peter Jones, Touker Suleyman and Sarah Willingham cast their eyes over more business ideas, including a recipe for ice cream that is healther than fruit and a new design of headphones that deep not cream that water for the water of the part of the water of the water of the part of the par
- and a new design of headphones that does not cover the wearer's ears. Plus, a barrister gets a lesson in margins. Last in the series.

 9.00 Let's Play Darks for Sport Relief 2016. New series. Gabby Logan hosts the pro-celebrity tournament in aid of charity. The first rounds pit Greg Davies against Jordan Stephens and Mike Tindall against Katherine Ryan.
- 10.00 The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story. Fact-based crime drama about the trial of former American football star and actor OJ Simpson for the murders of his wife and her friend. Cuba Gooding Jr stars. (R)
- Cuba Gooding of stars, 1900)

 10.55 Film: Memento. (2000) A man searches for his wife's killer in spite of the short-term memory loss he sustained during the same attack. Christopher Nolan's thriller, with Guy Pearce.

12.45 Film: The Night of the Generals. (1967) 3.05 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 4.00 Holby City. (R)

6.00 CITV. Bottom Knocker Street. 6.15
Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6.25 Dino
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.25 Dino
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino
Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.50 Signed
Stories: Share a Story. (R) 6.50 Soody.
(R) 7.05 Upper 4. (R) 7.15 Looped. (R)
7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35
Scrambled!: Scrambled!: Adventure. (R)
7.30 Scrambled!: Horrid
Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Horrid
Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Horrid
Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls
Surrival School. 9.05 Scrambled!: Horrid
Henry. (R) 8.50 Soombled!: Bear Grylls
Surrival School. 9.05 Scrambled!: Horrid
Jenry Kyle Show. (R) 9.25 ITV News.
9.30 Murder. She Wrote. (R) 10.25 The
Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.30 ITV News;
Weather. 12.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
(R) 1.40 Judge Rinder. (R) 2.40
Catchphrase. (R) 3.40 Film: Live and Let
Die. (1973) James Bond spy adventure,
starring Roger Moore.
6.10 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.11 TV News; Weather.
6.12 Planel's Got Talent. The best and
worst clips from the global Got
Talent franchise, featuring a watersking squirrel, a stunt driver and a
multi-laeled beat boxer.
7.00 Beowulf: Return to the
Shalellands Slean proagues for

- multi-talented beat boxer.

 7.00 Beowulf: Return to the
 Shieldlands. Slean prepares for
 his wedding to Kela, but an
 unexpected development proves
 more than he can cope with.
 Abreau's fixetin on Heret leads
- more than he can cope with.
 Abrecan's fixation on Herot leads
 him to neglect his own people.

 8.00 Vera. A fisherman's body is found
 tangled up in a North Sea trawler's
 net. Vera and her team investigate
 with the help of the local
 harbourmaster, and find the dead man's sons pointing the finger at the owner of a fish market, with whom they have a long-running feud. Retracing the dead man's steps, Vera discovers when he drowned and tracks down a waitress who may have been one waitress who may have been one of the last people to see him alive. However, the case becomes more complicated when a witness runs away and a boat belonging to the dead man's sister-in-law goes up in flames. Last in the series.

in flames. Last in the series.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 Rookies. Mark is called to help a man who has been attacked with a baseball bak, while Dan attends a near-fatal stabbing during his first solo shift. Last in the series. (R)

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union. 12.15 Jackpot247. 3.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.40 The King of Queens. (R) 7.05 The King of The King of Dueens. (R) 7.05 The King or Oueens. (R) 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 1.00 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) 2.00 Location. Location. Location. (R) 3.05 Film: The Princess Diaries? Exoyal Engagement. (2004) Family comedy sequel, starring Anne Hathaway. 5.20 Channel 4 News. 5.50 Film: Dumbo. (1941) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Edward Brophy.

7.00 The Secret Life of the Zoo.

Documentary revealing the secret life of the animals of Chester Zoo. life of the animals of Chester Zoo, one of Britain's most popular zoos, using new micro-rig technology to capture the behaviour of the animals and their close relationships with their keepers. In the first episode, the zoo's Aslan elephant family welcome a new arrival. Grumpy matriarch Thi has been pregnant for almost two years and is reaching the end of her tether. Shes given birth to a stillborn baby in the past, so the keepers have a close eve on her. keepers have a close eye on her. Cameras also follow Red panda

- Jung, who has been getting the cold shoulder from his partner Nima since they had two cubs. (R) 8.00 The Jump. Davina McCall presents another bout of winter sports action, as the remaining contestants compete in a mogul
- contestants compete in a mogil skiing event. The loser from each race will then have to face the jump, with one of them being eliminated from the competition. 9.00 Film: The World's End. (2013) Premiere. A 40-year-old man who refuses to grow up drags four reluctant childhood friends back to their home town to recreate a pub crawl they attempted in their their nome town to recreate a pu-crawl they attempted in their teens. As they work their way round the 12 local bars, they stumble on a threat to the entire human race. Sci-fi comedy, starring Simon Pegg.
- 11.10 Film: The Eagle. (2011) A Roman centurion and his British slave journey into the wilds of Scotland

to recover the standard of a lost legion. Action adventure, starring Channing Tatum and Jamie Bell. 1.10 Embarrassing Bodies: The 36-Stone Woman. (R) 2.05 Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.15 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 6.20 Angelina
Ballerina. (R) 6.30 Bob the Builder. (R)
6.45 Tickety Toc. (R) 6.55 Zack and
Duack. (R) 7.05 Poobarb and Custard
Too. (R) 7.15 Make Way for Nodrdy. (R)
7.25 Pay Patrol. (R) 7.40 Little Princess.
(R) 7.55 Pip Alnoy! (R) 8.35 Blaze and
the Monster Machines. 8.30 Ben and
Hollys Little Kingdom. (R) 6.45 Wanda
and the Allen. (R) 9.00 Toby's Travelling
Circus. (R) 9.15 Jengeng Mutant
Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.30 The
Championship: Football League Tonight.
(R) 11.30 Goal Rush: Football League
Tonight. (R) 12.00 Funniest Falls, Falls &
Flosp. 12.30 Police Interceptors. (R)
1.30 Police Interceptors. (R

(1986) Comedy, starring Tom Hänks and Shelley Long.

6.20 Film: The Fox and the Hound.
(1981) An orphaned fox cub is taken in by a kindly widow, and becomes firm friends with a puppy belonging to a hunter. However, as they grow to adulthood, the dog is trained to prey on foxes, and the two animals realise their friendship may not surplive as they are may not survive as they are expected to be natural enemies. Animated adventure, with the voices of Mickey Rooney and Kurt Russell. Part of Channel 5 80s Day.

Russell. Part of Channel 5 80s Day.

8.00 Film: Dirty Dancing. (1987) A dance instructor at a 1960s resort hotel fears his career will be jeopardised when his regular partner is forced to pull out of an important show in which they are due to perform. Luckliy, a naive teenager is happy to step in, and is treated to a whirtwind holiday education in life. Issue education in life, love and expressing herself. Romantic drama, starring Patrick Swayze, Jennifer Grey and Jerry Orbach. Part of Channel 5 80s Day.

Part of Channel 5 80s Day.

10.15 Greatest 80s Movies. Ronni
Ancona narrates a countdown of
viewers' favourite films from the
decade, including ET, Top Gun, The
Goonies, Ghostbusters, Beverly Hills Cop and Ferris Bueller's Day Off. Part of Channel 5 80s Day. (R)

Off. Part of Unanner o vos uay. (n) 12.50 Tattoo Disasters UK. (R) 1.15 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. 3.10 Never Teach Your Wife to Drive. (R) 4.00 Wildlife SOS. (R) 4.50 Great Artists. (R) 5.15 Great Scientists. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four 7.00 Jigs & Wigs: The Extreme World of Irish Dancing 8.00 Andre Previn at the BBC 9.00 Storyville: The Black Panthers 10.45 Film: Easy Money III: Life Deluxe 10.43 Firm: Easy Woney III: Life Deluxe 2013) 12.40 Troubadours: The Rise of he Singer-Songwriter 2.05 Sounds of he Eighties 2.35 Singer-Songwriters at he BBC 3.35 Close

11.40 Take Me Out 12.55 Take Me Out -11.40 Take Me Out 12.55 Take Me Out - The Gossip 2.00 Best of You've Been Framed Gold 3.05 Film: The Smurfs 2 (2013) 5.05 Ant 8 Dee's Saturday Might Takeaway 6.40 Film: Back to the Future (1965) 9.00 lbiza Weekender 10.00 Film: Delivery Man (2013) 12.10 Film: Not Another Teen Movie (2001) 2.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.25 Teleshopping 5.55 ITV2 Nightscreen

11.35 Berlie and Elizabeth 1.40 The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes 2.45 The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes 3.55 Lewis 6.00 Midsomer Murders 8.00 Barging Round Britain with John Sergeant 9.00 Caroline Quentin: A Passage Through India 10.00 Mrs Biggs 11.00 Film: The Bucket List (2007) 1.00 Ghostboat 2.20 A Touch of Frost 4.05 On the Buses 5.00 Judge Judy 5.25 Movies Now 5.30 ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

11.40 Counting Cars 12.35 The Classic Car Show 1.35 Film: Death of a Gunfighter (1969) 3.36 Film: Nevada Smith (1966) 6.15 Film: Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol (1987) 8.00 Premiership Rugby Union 9.00 Film: Fire Down Below (1997) 11.10 Film: Maximum Conviction (2012) 1.15 Ax Men 2.10 The Car Chasers 2.50 ITV4 Nightscrear 3.00 Toleschoots Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping

12.30 Film: Maid in Manhattan (2002)
2.35 The Goldbergs 3.35 The Big Bang
Theory 9.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD
10.00 Tattoo Fixers 11.00 Rude Tube 12.05 The Inbetweeners 1.10 The IT Crowd 2.10 The 100 2.55 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 3.40 Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 Magic in the Water (1995) 1.00
The Legend of Zorro (2005) 3.45
Beaches (1988) 6.15 Master and
Commander: The Far Side of the World
(2003) 9.00 The Mortal Instruments: City
of Bones (2013) A teenager discovers
she is part of a race of magical beings
tasked with defending the world from
demons. Fantasy adventure, with Lily
Collins. 11.35 The Crazies (2010) 1.35
Feast of Love (2007) 3.45 Close

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FILM CHOICES

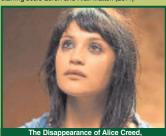
Righteous Kill, Channel 5, 10.55pm

Two veteran New York detectives are assigned the case of a murdered pimp. They realise they are dealing with a vigilante dishing out lethal punishment to those who have escaped the justice system, and as more dead criminals are found, they suspect the killer may be a fellow cop. Crime thriller, starring Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, Carla Gugino, John Leguizamo and Donnie Wahlberg. (2008)

Honor Student, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A writer is confronted by an ex-convict he once taught as part of a prison education programme, who accuses him of stealing her idea for a novel.

Obsessed with revenge, she plans to murder him - but first she intends to make him suffer by ruining his reputation and destroying his marriage. Thriller, starring Josie Loren and Niall Matter. (2014)



WEDNESDAY

The Lookout, BBC1, 11,45pm

A teenager's promising future is cut short when a car crash leaves him with brain damage that affects his memory. Taking a job as a janitor at a bank, he falls under the influence of crooks led by a former school friend. However, as he becomes aware of their plan to pull off a robbery, he makes a desperate attempt to stop them. Drama, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Jeff Daniels and Isla Fisher, (2007)

THURSDAY

Stolen from the Womb, Channel 5, 3.15pm A psychotic stalker gives a pregnant woman a labourinducing drug, before kidnapping her newborn child . Drama inspired by true events, starring Larisa Olevnik, Laura Mennell and Sebastian Spence, (2014)

The Disappearance of Alice Creed, BBC2, 11.35pm Two criminals kidnap the daughter of a wealthy family, with the intention of demanding a ransom. However, the hostage is not the helpless victim she appears, while she and both her captors have secrets that threaten to throw the plan into disorder. Thriller, winderma Arterton and Martin Compston. (2009)

Stars are out to shine at star-studded bash

he Brits returns to the O2 tonight to bring us a much-needed annual dose of music industry glitter, awkward award presentation and headline-generating performances during the dark days of British winter.

Tonight's headline act is Rihanna, who is back to perform for the fourth time, following the long-awaited release of her eighth album, ANTI.

It's likely that she'll perform her smash-hit single, Work, which topped of the charts in 90 countries.

For the Barbadian singer, it'll give her an opportunity to warm up before her world tour returns to the UK in June; and for her fans, it's the first Brit Awards performance since 2012, when she blew the crowd away with a rendition of We Found Love.

British songstress Adele was the first act to be named on this year's bill, which was considered quite a coup for the organisers.

Back in 2011, she performed a spine-tingling version of Someone Like You, but the year after she made headlines for swearing at "the suits"

her speech short, largely because Blur had bumbled around on stage before her.

Fresh from their half-time show alongside Beyonce at the Superbowl earlier this month, Coldplay will also

Chris Martin and co have suggested that their new album, A Head Full of Dreams, may be their last.

But, as they proved in a barnstorming London gig earlier this year, the record sounds as good live as any of their previous work.

Having recently beaten The Beatles' record for having the most singles in the UK top 40 at any one time, Canadian singer Justin Bieber is also sure to to be a hit with the Brits crowd. sure to to be a hit with the Brits crow.

There will also be performances from Jess Glynne, who rose to success in 2014 after being featured on Clean Bandit's single Rather Be, and James Bay, who won the Critics Choice Award 2015.

Canadian singer-cum-producer The Weeknd and 2011 X-Factor winners Little Mix will also be on stage

Finally, there will a touching tribute to the much-missed David Bowie following his death on January 10.

Bowie was a two-time Brit winner and became the oldest recipient of the Best British Male Solo Artist award two years ago. On the awards front, Adele leads the pack with four nominations for the newly designed trophies.

She will be battling it out for the coveted Album of the Year award alongside Coldplay, Florence + the Machine, James Bay and Jamie XX.

The presenters of the Brits is always a big issue, and we seem to reminisce every year, who can forget Samantha Fox and Mick Fleetwood?

Thankfully this year's ceremony is in good hands as it will be fronted by last year's hosts Ant and Dec.

About returning, the pair said: "We really loved hosting the show last year

"In all honesty we only intended to do it for one year but had such a good time we are thrilled to be doing it again

"We had a great night, enjoyed a glass of champagne or two! So this year... more of the same!"



Ant and Dec host, The Brit Awards 2016, Wednesday, ITV, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY Fresh Meat

Channel 4, 10pm

New series. The comedy returns for a fourth and final series, with the prospect of the real world looming large for the student housemates. JP's brother pays an unexpected visit and tells him it is time to knuckle down, while Howard has created a secret revision den in the cellar. Meanwhile, Oregon attempts to win a prestigious scholarship in America, Vod comes up with a scheme to help with her money troubles, and Kingsley is on the lookout for love, but possibly in all the wrong places.

Cuckoo

BBC1, 10.45pm

After the first series in 2012 the departure of Andy Samberg initially looked to be the end of the line for this show, one of BBC Three's most successful sitcoms. However the writers pulled of a Cuckoo coup when they recruited Taylor Lautner to fill the big-name American gap in season two. This third series opener picks up six months after Dale's dramatic departure during the 2014 Christmas special, and Rachel is still heartbroken, but she has managed to salvage a friendship with her iilted former fiancé Ben. However, just as life is about to return to normal in the Thompson household, a

transformed Dale returns from China to shake things up again. Meanwhile, Ken and Lorna are preparing for the birth of their unplanned baby, and son Dylan gets ready to leave for university.

TUESDAY

The Inspectors Are Coming

ITV, 7.30pm Cameras follow UK law enforcement teams, beginning in Cleethorpes where beach inspectors struggle with their new powers to fine as it goes against their usual laid back style. In Dumfries and Galloway, experienced law enforcers Erin and Jim are dishing out £80 penalties to anyone caught dropping a cigarette butt. Meanwhile, in the London borough of Newham, John and Terry face one of their busiest nights ever - could they be about to beat their record for the most number of noise complaints?

WEDNESDAY The Great Sport Relief Bake Off BBC1, 8pm

Sarah Millican hosts as actres Alison Steadman, comedian Ade Edmondson, singer Will Young

and impressionist Morgana Robinson bake for Sport Relief. They must face three challenges set by judges Paul Hollywood and Mary Berry, with the overall winner receiving the coveted Star Baker Apron. For the signature challenge, they must create an open-top pie, before attempting to make a salmon

roulade in the technical. Finally, the celebrities must use cupcakes to create a showstopper representing a momentous life experience. Last in the series.

THURSDAY The Great British Sex Survey Channel 4, 10pm

So much for ëno sex please we're British' - Channel 4 has discovered via a specially commissioned survey that UK residents are very much in touch with their sexuality. This programme takes a closer look at the results, revealing the nation's top 10 kinks and lifting the lid on

some surprising practices.

Experts, including psychotherapist Philippa Perry and Belgian sexologist Goedele Liekens, explore where unusual sexual desires come from, and investigate why some people only need a come hither look to get them going, while others require something a little more elaborate. The Great British Sex survey also asks just what convinced us to shed our repressed image and start unbuttoning, and hears from the ordinary people who get up to extraordinary things in the bedroom.

Comedy Playhouse: Hospital People BBC1, 10.35pm

The BBC's revived Comedy Playhouse strand is back with three new pilots, all hoping to becoming fully fledged sitcoms. We'll soon see Alun Armstrong and Alison Steadman in Broken Biscuits, written by Early Doors creators Craig Cash and Phil Mealey, while Nigel Havers and Sarah Hadland are teaming up for Jack Docherty's Stop/Start, but we begin with Hospital People. The mockumentary follows a group of characters united by the fact that their lives revolve around the local hospital - and that they are all played by co-writer Tom Binns. His creations include manager Susan Mitchell, spiritualist porter lan D Montfort, and someone who will be familiar to fans of Binns' stand-up, deluded DJ Ivan Brackenbury.



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Thinking space

BRAIN GYM No.365

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off. 16 **L** Α LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: G S L U O I P Z M F

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

- 1. Mislav a Gilbert and Sullivan opera and get annoyed (4,8) Widespread alarm of a hundred getting
- shocking pain (5) 8. See 9 Across 4. Conveyance for the
- 9.19 & 8Ac. Presumably no cold-blooded
- pursuer would be! (3,2.3.5) 10. Ineffective description of a
- broken pencil (9)

 Northern shaft
 difficult to squeeze through (6)
- 12. Has no further use for fragments (6) 15. Backer to drink
- strong ale (9)

 17. Fabulous winger to show back of stability, we hear
- 18. Elegant dresser found in Scotland and Yorkshire (5) 19. See 9 Across
- 21. They conduct the fans to hearten the chiefs (5-7)

- 1. Port, nautically speaking (4-4,4)
- 2. See 7 Down 3. In the first act I contrived a crafty
- landed gentry? (6.3) 5. Charles goes to the end of the lane in pursuit (5)
- 6. The direct opposite of open revelations?
- 7 & 2Dn. Darlings were abducted by him (5,3) 10. Professional to use
- the office machine - an original model (9)
- 13. Shocking rage before the end of the debate, but don't fall out (5)

 14. Constitutional street
- register (6) 16. Misappropriate as nippers do (5)
- 20. Drink for most of the side (3)

Quick Clues: Across

1. Uneasy (12)

- 7. Put off (5)
- 8. Fire-raising (5)
- 9. Recede (3) 10. Isolate (9)
- 11. Wearisome (6)
- 12. Diversion (6)
- 15. Incessant (9) 17. Immerse (3)
- 19. Object (5)
- 21. Formula (12)

- 1. Genuineness (12)
- 2. Consume (3) 3. Anger (6)
- 4. Amorphous (9)
- 5. Prospect (5)
- 6. Stoppage (12)
- 7. Exclude (5) 10. Idiotic (9)
- 13. Command (5)
- 14. Seller (6)
- 16. Change (5) 20. Chart (3)

Sudoku

2		8		1				
		9			6	8		
	1		3	8			9	5
				4	1			
1		4			9	7		3
			7	2				
	8			9	5		7	
	4	6	1			5		
5				6		1		8

Fill in the grid below so that every column every row and each of the 3x3 all the digits

8 7 2 9 6 1 3 5 4 3 6 1 7 4 5 8 9 2 9 4 5 2 8 3 6 1 7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Abandon: 8 Hot dog. 9 Balmier; 10 Retain; 11 Keeper; 12 Parental: 18 Organist; 20 Career; 21 Slight; 22 Copious; 23 Repeat; 24 Wealthy, Down 1 Therapy; 2 Stature; 3 Motion; 5 Blackleg; 6 Number; 7 Obeyed; 13 Thorough; 14 Ringle; 15 Statley; Parole; 17 Denial; 19 Asleep. OUICK - Across 4 Halfway, 8 Butla; 9 Affront 10 Object; 11 Uproar; 12 Vicarage; 18 Interval; 20 Debase; 2 Fondle; 22 Seveni; 23 Pisto; 24 Feather. Dow 1 Absolve; 2 Subject; 3 Cancer; 5 Affluent; 6 Furore; 7 Annual; 13 Allienat; 14 Awdifty; 15 Elderly; 16 Severe; 17 Patent; 19 Exotic.

Quiz

- Where is the seat of the LLN
- International Court of Justice? What branch of the arts do you associate with Jean Ingres?
- How many popes have been called
- Which body of water separates Italy from Sicily?
- Of which country was Milton Obote president?
- 6. What is pinchbeck?
- 7. Who founded Singapore in 1819?
- 8. What does the Russian word samoval
- 9. Of which country was Mario Soares made president in 1986?
- 10. Where was the liner Queen Elizabeth destroyed by fire in 1972?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 The scar left by a healed wound:

2 1968; 3 Hokkaido; 4 Saigon; 5 French;

6 Cantilever: 7 El Cid: 8 112: 9 1972:

Niner: CURTAINED

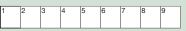
Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve discover a word which uses all nine letters

> gives a game, gives a second game, 241182 23456827 gives a third game.

FROM

the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to



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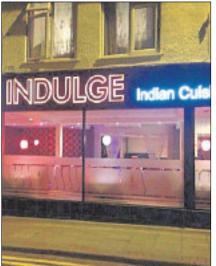








The plush interior of Indulge restaurant, Cannock Road, Chadsmoon



Indulge is coming up to its second birthday

Take time to Indulge in popular area's new restaurant on block

rants in such a small area, competition is fierce. But why not Indulge in the new kid on the block?

block?

Indulge, on Cannock Road, Chadsmoor, has gone through a number of incarnations over the years. However, just shy of its second birthday, it has already lasted longer than any of its predecessors – and has risen up the Trip Advisor rankings.

Of all the eateries in the Cannock Chase area, Indulge is the second highest ranked Indian restaurant.

Indian restaurant.

Indian restaurant.
Unsurprisingly, proprietor Shahin
Ahmed, otherwise known as Raj, is proud
of the achievements of himself and his staff,
and points to the quality of its food and service, as well as the hard work that has gone
itself the house of for its rest. into the business for its success

By Mark Shipp

"Things are really picking up and we are very happy at how things are going," he said, adding that the support and feedback from customers was inspiring them to grow even further.

Bai holisons the interest with a Co.

Rai believes the introduction of Sunday Kaj believes the introduction of Sunday five-course set meals, at £8.95, and Tues-day and Wednesday eat-as-much-as-you like gourmet nights at £9.95 have also gone some way towards its new-found status. It's a very easy restaurant to spot, so

the lack of success under previous guises is hard to fathom

It's certainly plush inside, with 110 cov-rs, though it does look as though it could

And here's a twist. If you fancy a private function, you can have the back room

– complete with dance floor, to yourselves - and with your own choice of images projected on to the wall.

The restaurant is not licensed, so we took our own alcohol.

our own alcohol.

Food prices are generous and there is an extensive list of Chef's Exclusive dishes and House Specials. And if variety is the spice of life, someone had better tell my other half, for whom there is no need to even offer a menu. "If they don't have butter chicken or makhani chicken, I'm not going in, " she might as well say ... " might as well say .

Fuss

They did, indeed, have butter chicken, so

that's one happy customer to start with.
It was straightforward choice from our
dining companion, too – but then when does
a teenage girl ever make a fuss? At least she pored through what was on offer before de ciding on her favourite tikka masala.

We were treated to a special platter starter to begin with, including chicken pakora, korahi kebab and moglal chicken—the latter, chicken marinated with garam masala and yoghurt and cooked with pepper, onions and garlic, was divine, but then so was the unexpected lamb shank we were served ahead of our starters.

Of course, there was little room for much else, but I still had to try my sea bass jhall fry main course. The fish was beautifully cooked and it had a hidden kick to it. But mixed with the lemon rice accompaniment

cooked and it had a hidden kick to it. But mixed with the lemon rice accompaniment it was the perfect blend for the palate.

Indulge is closed on Mondays, except for Bank Holidays, Opening hours are from 5.30pm-11pm. Special offers are available to mark its second year anniversary on March 15.

For more details, or to book a table at Indulge, call 01543 500771.









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*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show - see brochure/web page for details

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The ticket is for a Saturday evening performance

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This popular theatre package to the West End departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday returning on Sunday.

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Both breaks include a standard priced theatre ticket and the option to upgrade plus an overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel.





























Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, February 18, 2016

City centre's trams to be battery-operated



An artist's impression of how the new battery-operated electric trams will look running in the centre of Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM is to be the first UK city to use cutting edge battery technology to operate its trams, removing

overhead power lines.
A fleet of Midland Metro Urbos
3 trams will be fitted with hi-tech batteries to power the vehicles through architecturally sensitive

areas.

It means there will be no need for overhead cables around the 182-year-old Town Hall in Victoria Square when the city centre Metro line is extended

through from New Street station to Centenary Square.

Councillor John McNicholas, chairman of the Intergrated Transport Authority's (ITA's) delivery committee, said: "When we placed the order in 2012 for our new fleet of trams the ITA had the vision for them being capable of running without overhead wires.

Table 18 Street station to contract that should technology catch up the new trams could be retro-fitted with batteries. The application of West Midlands will be a historic first for the UK light rail industry."

Batteries will be fitted on the tram roof and will be recharged by overhead lines along other parts of the route. They will be ready to run when the

Technology

"The technology then was not sufficiently developed to incorporate into the Birmingham city centre extension. "Provision was made within the

Batteries will be fitted on the tram roof and will be recharged by overhead lines along other parts of the route. They will be ready to run when the extension to Centenary Square opens in 2019.

It also means Birmingham Eastside extension under the proposed HS2 sta-tionwill not need expensive infrastruc-ture works for overhead lines.

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Hippodrome date for dance students



Dance students from left back, Ann-Marie Wood, Chelsea Cowley, Emily Hartshorne, and front, Faye Bolan

TALENTED Walsall College dance students were selected to perform the 'curtain raiser' at the Birmingham Hippodrome during the latest production of Sleeping Beauty.

tion of Sleeping Beauty.

Level 3 students at the college,
Ann-Marie Wood, 18, Chelsea Cowley,
17, Emily Hartshorne, 18, and Faye
Bolan, 16, took to the stage as part of
an ensemble, performing a five-minute
dance piece before Mathew Bourne's
production began. The short piece,
'The Beauties Awake', is a brand-new
dance inspired by themes from the
main show.

The students were given the honour

after impressing judges during the auditions process, where hundreds of hopefuls tried out and only 29 were selected. They have been attending regular rehearsals and working with a professional choreographer and two members of Mathew Bourne's New Adventures cast. Adventures cast.

Matthew Bourne OBE is widely hailed as the UK's most popular and successful choreographer and director. He is the creator of the world's longest running ballet production, a five-time Olivier Award winner, and the only British director to have won the Tony Award for both Best Choreographer

and Best Director of a Musical. Performing Arts lecturer at Walsall College, Julie Wright said: "We are very proud of the students and can't wait to see them showcase their talents on

"This is a fantastic opportunity for the students to build up their experi-ence of performing to a live audience and working in a professional environ-

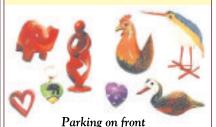
Faye said: "So far the whole experaye sau. So far the whole experience has been very challenging but I feel I've learnt so much. I'm really excited about performing in front of a large crowd."

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This three-bedroom semi also has a conservatory



stantial three-bedroomed semi-detached property in Sunnybank Road, Dudley is for sale through Skitts at £119,950 with no chain.

With majority double glazing and gas central heating it has excellent living accommodation comprising three bedrooms, a first floor bath-room with a white suite, a living room with wood-effect laminate flooring and a feature fire-

good-sized kitchen with wood-effect units con trasting working surfaces, space for a table and chairs and a stove and a ground floor WC.

01902 686868 or visit www.skitts.net website









AN EXTENDED and spacious four-bed-roomed family home in Apley Road, within walking distance of Wollaston Village, is on a corner plot in a cul-de-sac on a corner plot. It is offered for sale through Trinity Prop-

It is offered for sale through 1 minty Property at £270,000.

Having a good sized driveway and a garage to the side, double glazing and central heating, it has two reception rooms, an extended kitchen and downstairs WC/shower

pstairs there are four bedrooms (three

doubles and a single) and a bathroom.

To the rear of the property the large garden has a fenced patio area, lawn, herb bed

area and a seating area.
For further information contact Trinity
Property on 01384 213395 or visit www.
trinityproperty.net website.





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TWO high quality 1950's former Police Houses on a large south facing plot in an acutely sought after location off Moorhall Drive - the properties currently inter-connect, reflecting their most recent use as a Charity Day Centre, but would revert to their original forms very easily indeed. Immense further potential, vacant ession upon completion - Freehold. Energy Rating: D

Guide Price £250,000-£300,000

6pm Tuesday 15th March 2016 at Hogarths Stone Manor Hotel, Stone, Kidderminster. DY10 4P]



umber 14/00236/FUL and provides for a substantial single storey layout offering a gross internal area of 100sq.m or 1,076 sq.ft. Externally there is also plenty of amenity and ample parking provision. Worcester & Ludlow each about 15 miles distant.

Guide Price £125,000-£175,000



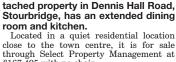
properties are to be sold together as one freehold lot and have been producing an attractive combined gross rental income of £10,800 per annum. 43A will have the benefit of vacant possession and 43B is currently let at £500 per calendar month. 43A - a one-bedroom ground floor garden flat. 43B - a two-bedroom duplex flat with garden plus fine rear views over the Stour Valley. Energy Ratings: No. 43a: D / No.

Guide Price £100,000-£120,000

Extended dining room and kitchen at traditional semi







£167.495 with no chain.

With double glazing and gas central heating, it has an entrance hall, under-stairs storage, a lounge with a coal/log fire with a tiled hearth and feature surround, a dining room with a coallog fire with tiled hearth and feature surround, a kitchen with a built-in cooker and a four-ring There are three bedrooms (one with fitted fur-

There are three bedrooms (one with inteed fur-niture), a fully tiled shower room, front garden with parking for two cars, garage and rear gar-den with two patios and lawn. Contact Select Property Management on 01384 277701 or visit the website at www.select salesandlettings.com





Dormer bungalow has three bedrooms

THIS extended three-bedroomed dormer bungalow in Siddons Road, Coseley, is for sale through Swinscoes at £177,500.

With double glazing, gas central heating, a beautiful mature rear garden and driveway parking, it is also within walking distance of the train station. It has an entrance porch, an entrance hall, a lounge with French doors and a feature gas fire, a sitting room with a bow window, a dining room with French doors, a kitchen with a range oven with an extractor hood and an range oven with an extractor hood and an range oven with an extractor nood and an integrated washing machine, side lobby, bedroom with a shower room and furniture, two further bedrooms and bathroom with a claw footed bath. Contact Swinscoes on 01902 672274 or visit www.swinscoes.co.uk





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Character three-bedroom property with secret patio A PERIOD property of great charm and character in Summer Place, Kidderminster, is for sale through Phipps & Pritchard with McCartneys at £205,000. It has a living room with solid oak period flooring and a fire surround with mantle and period hearth style hearth and grate, a dining room with Prench doors to a 'secret patio', a kitchen with part sloping ceilings, marble worktops and breakfast bar, pan drawers, a range-style cooker with a five-ring gas hob including a wok burner and double oven and grill and underfloor heating and folding doors to the 'secret patio', three double bedrooms, bathroom, en-suite shower room, cellar used as a home studio/cinema and attic with windows. There is parking



cellar used as a home studio/cinema and attic with windows. There is parking. Contact Phipps & Pritchard on 01562 822244 or visit www.phippsandpritchard.co.uk



Town house is in a desirable location



with a re-inted shower room, its for saie through Hicks Hadley at £169,950. With double glazing and gas central heat-ing it has a driveway leading to a garage, an entrance hall with stairs off, a dining an entrance nall with stairs off, a dning kitchen with laminate flooring and three spot lights, a good-sized lounge with a bay window, a second reception room/bedroom with wardrobes, a bathroom, second floor landing, three upstairs bedrooms. There

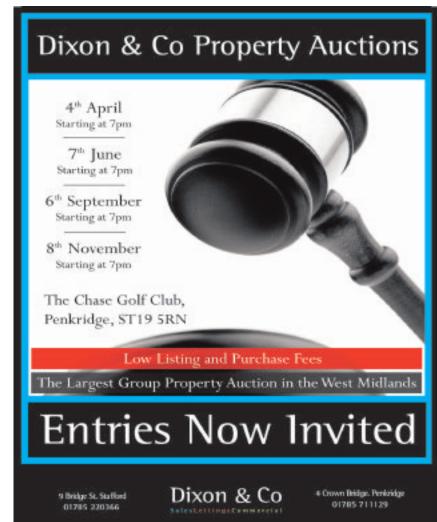
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Cactus is looking sharp

By Sharon Walters

The Citroën Cactus may have an unusually quirky image but it's a joy to drive and offers excellent fuel economy.

We shouldn't have been surprised when the rather unusual Citroën Cactus arrived on our streets. Looking a little like a chunky child's toy or something from Thunderbirds, it follows on from all those great quirky cars that the

French company used to give us.
In the past it was a company that dared to be different and brought us very individual cars like the DS, 2CV (remember the one with the soft top?), the SM, the CX and the BX. And not so long ago the Xantia Activa, the C6 and the C4. They weren't always suc-



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Now we have the Cactus and and its timng couldn't have been better. Let's face it, rossover vehicles had become so popur they had moved from the alternative to comfortable family hatch. We now have a rossover that looks unlike any other vehicle n the roads, with its Airbump side cladding nd a shed-load of other bold details.

A large panoramic sunroof features a state-of-the-art coating to filter UV light and effect heat, and fills the cabin with diffused

Unique to the C4 Cactus and an instant recognisable feature of the model is Citpën's new Airbump technology.

Fitted to the front and rear doors, the bugh air-filled TPU (thermoplastic polyuethane) capsules protect against minor bumps and scrapes. Airbump panels do not need specific maintenance and reduce the stress and expense associated with car park dings and dents – cutting service and repair

osts over the lifetime of the car.

While the interior looks uncluttered and vithout much in the way of technology, there an awful lot discreetly placed.

Fitted as standard, the fully digital Touch prive interface features a 7-inch touchscreer control all the main vehicle functions These include automatic air conditioning, media (DAB radio, audio streaming, mobile onnections, music and photo storage), navconflictions, mask and photo storage), mav-igation (map view, speed limit display, traffic conditions, fuel-efficient routing), driving aids (reversing camera, park assist, speed limiter/cruise control), telephone (hands-free via Bluetooth, contacts, call management) onnected services and vehicle settings.

It takes a while to get to grips with but



Looking a little like a chunky child's toy or something from Thunderbirds, it follows on from all those great quirky cars that the French company used to give us

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once mastered the interface is excellent. Plus, there are some shortcut keys on ei-

ther side of the main screen for practicality.
There is also a range of innovative aids available, including park assist to get into spaces and a reversing camera which displays the rear view and guidelines on the

Designed to reduce the cost of owner ship throughout the life of the vehicle, the C4 Cactus's multi-award-winning features include a lightweight design, impressive fuel economy of up to 91.1mpg and excel-lent fuel emissions.

The car is offered with six efficient powe trains, four petrol – PureTech 75, PureTech 82. PureTech 82 S&S and PureTech 110 S&S – and two HDi diesels – e-HDi 92 and BlueHDi 100. Engines are mated to either five-speed manual or five or six-speed ETG (Efficient Tronic Gearbox) transmissions. All diesels are sub-100g/km of CO2 and are eligible for free car tax. There is even a tax-exempt petrol version – the PureTech 82 S&S ETG – which emits just 98g/km. While I was a little unsure about the

looks, its economy and comfort won me





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elderly & disabled

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Home & Services

furniture

SIDEBOARD£80. Ikea 2 double wardrobes. £70 for both. Lewis chest of 3 drawers. £30. Good con-dition. 07899 307165.

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Mother.

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fhan that of the breeder.
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property

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£21.00 for 6 nights

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Alloys, Stereo, spare wheel,
jack etc.lovely condition.j4 M5.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 SRi, 06, petrol, manual, 7 seater, 5 dr, silver, 12 months MoT, 81,000 miles FSH. good condition £2,250.

VW PASSAT Highline 2.0 TDi, blue, FSH, 58 reg, full leather, heated seats, Dab radio, great condition. £3,995 ono. 07734 441987.

cars under £1500 ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CITROEN C31.4 petrol, 02 reg, 115,000 miles, 5dr, silver, 3 months MoT, new clutch, brake pads, shoes £800 no. 0.7497 263503.
CITROEN PICASSO AUTO. 06, 65,000 miles, 12 months MoT, 12 months MoT, 15 mo

clean inside and out. £1,000. c 07855 946489

NISSAN ALMERA TINO, 2003, 99,000 miles, blue, electric windows, air bag, air con, alarm, MoT, central locking, pas, sunroof, £300. 07957 491522. PEUGEOT 206, diesel, 1.4, 2002, good runner / condition, £30 per year road tax. £550. 07758 089629.

ROVER 75 Tourer, 03 reg, FSH, one owner from new, genuine 61,000 miles, immaculate condition. £1,295. 07956 670563. SUZUKI VITARA 1600 GREEN. 1999. Hard top. 12 months MoT. 92,000 miles, £900. Telephone 07851 289020 after 4pm.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7DTi-diesel, X reg, white, full MoT, owned last 8years, excellent condition, multifuction steering wheel, 136k radio/CD, fitted never used electric tow bar, oldhi intorcyclony year, reliloth interior, clean, very reli-ible, **£600 ono. 07866 750420.**

VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI

VAUXHALL ASTHA SXI 2004, 78,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, air con, MoT, metallic paint, central locking, pas, alloys, CD. £925. 01384 865045. VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, 02, 3-dr, met green, MoT Aug, alloys wheels, good tyres, engine problem, hence £125 ono. 07766 272429.

Personals

TELEPHONE - 01902 317878 ON LINE - bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk IN PERSON - At your local Express & Star office

01902 317878

Looking for attractive lady for LTR. Box Number P20232, Express and Star. Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE TRAVEL BUDDY WANTED

Savvy, size 12 lady, non smoker, OHAC, no dogs, kids or baggage.

WLTM gentleman 55-60ish for days out, possible holidays.

Wishes to meet nice, sensible honest gentleman, 50 - 57.

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Express & Star

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Here's how to use your dating service ...

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Simply text REG followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to 80098 FRFF Standard Network rates apply

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Text.. REPLY26 (leave a space) the six-digit box number (leave a space) and then enter your message & send to 80098 eg: REPLY26123456 hi get in touch... then send to 80098 Successfully received messages cost £1.50 per message (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for yr safety and security.



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Single Women

MICHELLE 39yr old nurse, slim, petite, blonde, blue eyes, looking to enjoy life with similar romantic, caring guy. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

FEMALE, 37, new to area, would like to meet nice trustworthy man, for friendship hopefully more. Text only to mailbox: 5392585

LUCY first time advertiser, 32yrs, tall slim

CAROL 37 attractive slim blonde, curves in SARA all the right places, nice personality, good company, looking for caring man for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 0420757 9 3955 I

discreet adult fun, any area, all calls red. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399

DEBS lonely 40's female with no ties, GSOH, N/S, loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together with.

Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420729

KAREN, 42yrs, attractive and broadminded, seeks no strings fun with chap any age, must be discreet. Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box: 407953

BEV 30yr old curvy attractive female, likes music, travel, animals, cosy nights in front of a log fire, looking for affectionate male for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420715

ROSIE, 43yrs, bored and lonely, I don't get out much but would like to meet a nice chap, married or single, fun only pls. Text only Box

SUE, 46, confident professional, sporty/active, seeking sensitive interesting guy for intimate evenings in with great food and conversations. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420701

JENNI, hairdresser, brunette, caring and fun. WLTM chap any age, must be discreet with car, I have a nice home to meet in. Text only Box: 4139156

Box: 4139156

CAROLINE, 42yrs, slim attractive blonde, varied interests and solvent, WLTM honest male of any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955

Box No: 420685

KAREN, curvy brunette, 42yrs loves men of all ages and sizes but must make me laugh all ages and sizes but must make me laugh I am married with open marriage. **Text only** Box: 4020257

CHRIS, 67, brunette, cuddly, WLTM caring, kind gentleman, for days out, meals out, walks etc and for just being together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420667

LILY, genuine lady looking for a genuine man. I like cosy nights in and am a smoker. Text only mailbox no: 5372466

TRISH, 44, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC, WLTM male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420601

SAMANTHA pretty brunette, very busty 36, intelligent, independent with a real lust for life, seeks big-hearted stocky male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420599 🗒

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette | LOUISE, 47, youthful looking female looking female to a seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent of spontaneous male to put some love and Male discreet, married or single. |
ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673 | ACA. Tel: 0

ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673

YVONNE, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun music loving female, with many interests times with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: lockling dining out, the arts, photography WLTM similar male. Text only to Mailbox no: 5345662

420269 \$\tilde{\text{\circle}}\$ \text{including diring out, the arts, photography} \text{\circle}\$ \text{\circ

Box No: 42035/ Bax Text only to Mailbox no: 5084796

ANN,38, very attractive female, N/S, positive RANN,28, very attractive female, N/S, positive attitude to life, WLTM similar kind male with involut, seeking uncomplicated male who can a lot of get up and go for romance and fun occupy my free time for quality times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 42003 Bax No: 4200

passionate nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTM Kidderminster, loves the theatre date again, looking for male to take me out. ballet, WLTM a lovely, charmin Looks/Age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 genuine guy, 30s to settle down wit 3955 Box No: 420207 0 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883 0

SALLY, 46, slim attractive fiesty rednead, CATHY, 42 good looking brunette with a real intelligent, easygoing, WLTM similar male for passion for life, seeking male for happy times, friendship and more, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420475 100 No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420473 100 No: 420473 100 No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420473 100 No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420473 100 No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420473 100 No: 0906 500 No: 420473 100 No: 0906 500 No: 0906 50

JACKIE Ionely and looking for male FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences affection? Then I'm your girl. call me. Tel No: with a curvy brunette. Discretion guaranteed Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311

curvaceous brunette, 35, MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives the nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTM Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opei in, looking for male to take me out ballet, WLTM a lovelv. charming fund

To Reply to members

0906 500 3955

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

Have the adverts 6-digit box no

written down and do key-it-in

promptly when asked. Don't forget

to leave contact details for replies.

JOANNA, 36, petite, abouth harea tentale, JAM 3397 toll blue eyeu blottlee, outgoing, lovely figure seeks loving older male for fun friendly, WLTM passionate guy to share good nights out and cosy nights in. Maybe more, wine, good conversation, fiirting and fun fel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 149598 SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of 418609 \$\big(\frac{1}{2} \)

CURVY, farm girl at heart, 32, 5ft 10, single mum, caring, kind, shy, likes walks, cooking WLTM tactile male farmer for LTR. Text only to Mailbox no: 5067001

WIDOW 50, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415767

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419417 🖰

FEMALE 50's, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415871

an, any age, any area, for discreet daytime n. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418117 CAROL Ann, sensitive slim brunette very romantic seeks tall handsome male for fun, friendship and lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419385

bored, seeking open-minded decent male for fun/friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419383

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirty, seeks similar fun vAL 41, pretty, coolin, liny, seeks similar full loving male for an uncomplicated no strings relationship. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416601 🖺

MID naughty forties female looking fun. thrills and discrete meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. Tel No: 9906 500 3955 Box No: 418709 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 19 plus for discrete tault fun. 418 No: 409109 # PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft

No: 409109 EJ
DIVORCED female, attractive, sensual by
STEVE 58 yrs, 6ft, average build, seel
nature, OHAC, bored with own company,
woman for NSA mutual pleasure, ma
looking to make life a little more exciting with
status unimportant. Text only to mailt
status unimportant. Text only to mailt nature, OHAC, bored with own company, looking to make life a little more exciting with likeminded man. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419219 €

genuine male to share lonely evenings with.
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417211

JOYCE, affectionate sensitive widow, bit of a romantic, seeks loving male for lots of TLC. Looks unimportant, it's what's in the heart that matters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No:

fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call me, you have nothing to lose. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419075 ₽

JULES, sensitive tactile, curvy brunette fun, friendship and possible LTR. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419033

PAULINE, 49yrs, very attractive, curvy

divorcee, affectionate and fun, seeks laid back, sincere male for an uncomplicated, loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and passionate, WLTM male 45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 9096 500 3955 Box No: 419579 €

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. Tel No: 9096 500 3955 Box No: 418615 with Tel No: 1000 500 3955 Box No: 418615 MARIE, 43, fit play pieces his observable, possible file more enjoyable. Tel No: 1000 500 3955 Box No: 418615 MARIE, 43, fit play pieces hooting, GSOH, NS, non drinker, seeks male. Tel No: 9096 500 3955 Box No: 900 3955 Box No: 418615 Mims. Tel No: 9096 500 3955 SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long

blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel wining/dining, WLTM genuine male for mutual companionship. Looks unimportant Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418587

Mailbox No: 4869116 KAY, very young 45, fit and active, no ties,

seeks similar young at heart, fun male for fun meets. Age/Status/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418577

Single Men

St95 BOX NO: 415071

BILUE eyed female, blonde hair, slim, GSOH, WAYNE, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar Looking for a lady who likes stimulating male, 55-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: conversation and times. Tel No: 0906 500 416989

DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809 ₽

GENUINE male, 58, OHAC, looking for fun lady for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417601

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to

share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709

seeks female, 18 plus for discreet adult f Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401875

YOUNG at heart lonely 55yr old male, 5ft 10, medium build, n/s, GSOH, loyal, looking for a female for adult fun time, possible LTR. Text only to mailbox: 5321154

MARK, 44, very interesting person, own business, sporty, honest and genuine, likes nights out, meals out, cinema, country walks, WLTM a lady for friendship and good company leading to a permanent relationship. Tel No: 0906

STEVEN, 39, caring and clean, looking for female for fun, laughter and companionship
Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420861 MALE, 46, slim, WLTM a lady to settle me down, if that's you please get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420853

62yr old professional male seeks female 55-70, curvy and feminine, for fun, laughter and relationship. Text only to mailbox: 4435871 TREVOR 45, likes cinema, going out, some interests. Text only to mailbox

COLIN 48, loving, kind, seeks loving kir caring cuddly lady 48 to 54 for LTR, love ar romance. Text only to mailbox: 5308886

5392042

MALE 51, seeks lady to spoil and pamper Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313191 y for no within 10 No: 407741

http://dating.expressandstar.com

attractive, genuine female, 38-50 for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267

HANDSOME, attractive, fit, Indian, professional trucker, 38, WLTM attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 219790

to 70 for close adult fun, any status or size.
Text only to mailbox: 4347071

residing in central Birmingham, seeks slimish female for fun times. **Text only to mailbox**: 5383053

KALU 26 years old single dark/black good looking man looking for a good-looking women for sexy fun. Text only to mailbox:

slim, attractive, caring female for friendship, hopefully LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box ASIAN male, 38, good looking, fit, caring, GSOH, WLTM Asian female, 40

SEXY Indian male, 40, dark hair/eyes, fit, seeks fit, sporty, sexy, romantic female, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 301791

HANDSOME Indian male, 41, romantic, likes meals out, days out, nights in, seeks sensitive, intelligen female, 36-46 for friendship, maybe m No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 322561



FIT, handsome, Indian male, 40, GSOH, seeks Asian lady, 33-43 for lady, 33-43 for nip. **Tel No: 0906 500**

ATTRACTIVE professional, Asian male, 43, kind, caring, likes travel, romance, dining, caring, likes attractive

MARK 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 348239

58, for friendship, reply and claim free hug. Text only mailbox no: 4172082

BLACK male early 40's, slim, looking for casual adult weekend fun with broadminded, easy going discreet female. Text only mailbox no: 4656899

brown hair, seeks female between 25 and 45 for fun and maybe more. Please get in touch Text only mailbox no: 5352046

caring, loving, cuddly large lady, 40 to 55 fo LTR. Text only mailbox no: 5308886 45 year old male WLTM lady friend 35 to 55

who likes to enjoy life. Text only mailbox no: 4215562

Follow us on twitte 0.

MALE, 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive

hair, n/s, divorced, own business, WLTM a long-term partner to travel and enjoy the good things in life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420433

HAPPY man 59 looking for a lady to share the good times. I enjoy cinema, eating out, pubs and holidays in hot places. Text only to mailbox no: 4618385

LONELY and broken male seeks female to show me what love is. Text only to mailbox no: 5345658

and out. COLIN 61, lorry driver, 5'10", blue eves, kind

TALL dark, good looking male, 53, seeks attractive female for daytime fun and exciting times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393380

ATTRACTIVE male, 54, seeks attractive female for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407915

attractive female for no strings fun times. Tel
No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 299904 ATTRACTIVE male, late 40's, seeks attractive female for fun times. Tel No: 0906

TALL, dark, attractive guy 50, seeks attractive, tactile female for fun, excitemen and lots of attention. Tel No: 0906 500 3955

Gay Singles

I am looking for discreet fun with a male, age

BI curious male, slim, fit, looking for weekdays fun, looking for someone to show me the ropes, 45 to 65. Text only mailbox no: 5378837 DIVORCED male, young 50, own home/business, seeking Asian or East European male 18-25, I'm a generous guy.

Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420537

MIKE bi male, divorced, own home/business young 51, seeks male, 19-50, any nationality for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box

BI male, young 50, divorced, own home/business, seeks male, 18-45 for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 40- 384775

gay man early 60s WLTM CD male late 20s to early 40s for good times and friendship. Glouces Text only to mailbox no: 4667184

Just Friends

LONELY mother seeks female friends for ning coffee chats, likes als etc. **Text only to**

WHY SIT ALONE THINKING "WHAT IF?" WHEN YOU COULD BE TEXTING PEOPLE LIKE YOU IN YOUR AREA WHO ARE WAITING FOR YOUR MSC! JOIN OUR NEW MATCHMAKER SERVICE NOW!

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum. LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTM a lady

3955 Box No: 417985

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417941

SUSAN No: 417985

LISA 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a femiline, a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman with a mind of her own, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419839

SUSAN No: 419851

SUSAN NO: 4198

LINDA, 43, divorced very lonely single murn, Vound ploking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, male for companionship. Age/looks/Status caring and furny to mend my broken heart unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418795 \$\\ \end{align*}

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, No: 418855 \$\\ \end{align*}

No: 418855 \$\\ \end{align*}

JANE, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, No: 419855 \$\\ \end{align*}

Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985 \$\\ \end{align*}

JANE, 10 could be fun! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985 \$\\ \end{align*}

BEBBIE, 2 description of the country of the country

3955 Box No: 417341 € 3955 Box No: 419839 € KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, tactile, no ties, WtTM kind, loving male to holidays etc. WtTM male for mutual enjoy affectionate relationship. Any companionship Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420195 € 419821 €

CATHY, 42, good looking brunette with a real PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights passion for life, seeking male for happy times, out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and dates, chats, romance and more. Pis call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420175 0 418277 0 418277

LADY Penelope seeks her very own Parker (47-59) to go on a voyage of discovery and romance. Text only to Mailbox no: 4550237 WALSALL male looking for lady for VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall slim and attractive, looking for fun times maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Te No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418845 ₿

RAHEN 50, WIGOW, likes SWIMMING, norse riding, keep fit, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, non drinker, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415211

FEMALE medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male 50-58 GSOH loving garing and to mend heart age 39/40. Text only to

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks

3955 box No: 419300 g

WillSTEN, 36, attractive, blonde and very bored, seeking open-minded decent male for fun with younger female. Tel No: 0906 500 fun/friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414991

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, loving and honest, many interests, seeks

DEBBIE, 29, looking for mature professional

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall

HEATHER, well travelled solvent brunette

MADDIE extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things reading, walking, cinema, seeks male 40-50 location, for friendship and hopefully a lot 42-52 with good sense of humour. Text only sensible with money, loving, passionate, rome. Text only to Malibox more. 2856384 to 4 milliox No: 285752 sensible with money, loving, passionate, rome. Text only to Malibox more. Text only to Malibox more. 2856384 to 4 milliox No: 285752 sensible with money, loving, passionate, rome. Text only to Malibox more. Text only to Malibox no: 2857585 to the last visible with money, loving and heart, nice eyes, seeks man 40-50 location, for friendship and hopefully a lot 42-52 with good sense of humour. Text only to more. Text only to Malibox no: 2855854 to 4 milliox No: 285752 bers of location, for one welcome. Text only to Malibox no: 28575854 to 4 milliox No: 285752 bers of location, for one welcome. Text only to Malibox no: 28576854 to 4 milliox No: 285752 bers one to the register of t

ATTRACTIVE male 56 seeks dom female 40

MATURE male, 6ft, slim, fit, clean and smart

MAN 55yrs, 6tt med build, single, looking for VERY useful, attractive 58 yr old, GSOH, six a special lady to share no strings fun and foot tall, nice build, n/s, genuine, tactile, fit good times Age/status unimportant. Text only to mailbox: 5381487

Text only to mailbox: 5381487

Application of the control of the contro

ATTRACTIVE British Indian male, 38,

friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 235383



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SLIM attractive man WLTM caring lady,

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the week by pocketing a whitewash

THE week began well for West Midlands Police who won their rearranged match at Pockets SC A 5-0 in the Stourbridge & District Snooker League Premier Division.

Snooker League Premier Division.
Leaders Norton Social A routed
Moor Pool & Snooker A 5-0, while
the police beat Baggeridge Social
by the same scoreline.
Hotshots SC A and Amblecote
Inst A share fourth place after a
5-0 win over Pockets SC B and a
4-1 over Pockets SC A respectively.
Kinver Const B's 11 point first
division lead looked sure to be cut
when they slipned un 3-2 against

division lead looked sure to be cut when they slipped up 3-2 against Stourbridge Inst B but second placed Kingswinford Cons B went down 3-2 to Stourbridge Inst A and Wombourne lost at Kinver Const A 3-2. Kingswinford Cons A took advantage taking all five frames at Moor Pool & Snooker C. Amblecote Inst B won their fourth in a row, 3-2 over Moor Pool & Snooker B. Kinver Const C ended a run of four defeats with a win over Norton Social B.

Second Division leaders Stourbridge Old Edwardians beat Stourbridge O

Second Division leaders Stour-bridge Old Edwardians beat Stour-bridge Inst C 5-0, Kinver Const D came away from the Amblecote RBL Legion with a 3-2 win and Amblecote RBL A edged out King-swinford Cons C 3-2.

Aminiectore Kons C 3-2.

A Results - Premier Division: Norton Social A 5 Moor Pool & Snooker A 0; Baggeridge Social 0 West Midlands Police 5; Hotshots SG 5, 65 Pooker SG C 3, 47 Pookets SC A 1, 4 Molecote Inst A 4; Pockets SC A 1 West Midlands Police 5; Hotshots SG 80; Pookets SC A 1 Amblecote Inst A 4; Pockets SC A 1 West Midlands Police 5 Histal Division: Kinver Const B 2 Stourbridge Inst B 3; Kinver Const A 3 Wombourne 2; Kingswinter SG 1 Stourbridge Inst B 3; Moor Pool & Snooker C 0 Kingswintord Cons A 5; Kinver Const C 3 Norton Social B 2.

Second Division: Amblecote Inst D 1 Kingswinford Cons D 4; Stourbridge Inst D 1 Kingswinford Cons C 4; SIB Old Edwardians 5 Stourbridge Inst C 0; Kingswinford Soc C 2 Amblecote RBL B 2 Kinver Const D 3.

lown recover to edge thriller over Casuals

Cradley 3 Wolves Casuals 2
CRADLEY Town came back from a 2-1 deficit to edge this five-goal West Midlands League Premier thriller at home to Wolverhampton Casuals.

The hosts grabbed a second-minute goal in the topsy-turvy clash when Jovan Blake-Walker beat Casuals keeper James Searratt with a

uals keeper James Scarratt with a shot on the turn from 20 yards

Five minutes later Liam Hughes equalised for Casuals when he floated an 18-yard effort over Cradley keeper Shaun Edwards.

ley keeper Shaun Edwards.
Casuals took control as Danny
Cresswell netted at the far post from
a corner after 56 minutes to go in
front.
But the hosts recovered as sub-

stitute Charlie Gregg levelled with a good finish in the 71st minute. A minute later Oliver Oatley bagged

Police start the week by Eagles take flight for latest final



Kewford Eagles girls under-14s west squad

chasing more success after reaching their third league trophy final.

Kewford Eagles under-14s girls west, led by Rich Shelley and Kev Hampton, booked their place in the Mercian League Shield final after a 5-3 win over local rivals Stour-bridge.

Charity trustee Lynn Boleyn said:
"The under-14 girls have done particularly well with this being their eighth final in five years – they have played in three Merit Shield Cup fi-

finals and two Mercian Cup finals – going on to win six of them."

Also having a great season, the club's under-12 girls and Open Ladies top their leagues.

Incentive

Hoping to follow in their foot-steps, the next generation of Kew-ford Girls have started their football journey this month. Fun, friendly Saturday sessions are led by qual-ified coaches and assisted by girls

added incentive of football in the Stourbridge and District Youth League to look forward to, Kewford hope to attract 20 young players for new teams next season.

The club is keen to develop individuals and doesn't select players on the basis of ability but instead

on the basis of ability but instead creates a positive environment in which girls can grow their game. Interested girls in school years 3, 4 and 5 should get in touch via kew-fordeagles.co.uk

Stour put an end to losing streak

STOUR were grateful to draw a three-match losing veil over a streak, struggling to overcome the hard-working basement side in a contest they at times looked in danger of losing.

Only very late in the game did they claw a narrow lead that was closed out with a great solo try by scrum half Toby Handley.

Both sides looked to move the ball, but the visitors drew first blood with a Chris Bell penalty.

Nigel Mukarati went over for Stour, but when

Nigel Mukarati went over for Stour, but when they were again penalised in the tackle, Bell con-verted from almost 40m out. Then, when Stour conceded a penalty for kill-ing the ball in their 22 that drew a warning from referee Ben Davis, Bell added a further three

Stour started purposefully from the restart and Handley drove over in the corner. Scott slotted

Handley drove 'over in the 'corner. Scott slotted an excellent wide conversion and Stour had their noses in front.

An obstruction saw Bell's penalty kick reclaim the lead, but an excellent take by winger Josh Trinham off the restart launched a Stour attack that drew a penalty that Scott knocked over. With time almost up, a lineout ball near half-way was worked to Handley who broke a tackle, chipped the defender, regathered and just held off the chase to score an outstanding solo try in the corner. the corner.

On Saturday, Stour host South Leicester, kick

On Saturday, stour nost south Leicester, Rick off 3pm.

Shrewsbury 21 Stourbridge Lions 26

FOR the last two seasons Shrewsbury has been a hard place for the Lions to visit and a narrow loss in the cup earlier in the season continued this

However the Lions were keen to carry momen-um forward from the previous week's cup win

tum forward from the previous week's cup win into this game.

Shrewsbury looked to impose themselves but after a couple of phases James Meakin made a monstrous turnover which resulted in Ben Tibbetts feeding Arron Boffey to score under the posts, converted by centre Sam Wilson.

The score was extended when George Tildesley intercepted and fed Owen Williams for a try. Captain Stuart Dolittle added a third try, converted by Wilson before Shrewsbury finally got



Stourbridge centre Ash Elvers breaks through the Huddersfield defence

some reward for their attacks forcing a penalty. A Tibbetts try, converted by Wilson took Stour in at half-time 26-3 up. Shrewsbury forced a further try and two penalties in the second half but the Lions hung on. This weekend the Lions hope to make it four consec-

utive victories when they take on Stafford.

Lions reward for Midlands Intermediate Cup quar-

ter final success at Oadby Wiggstonians is a home semi final against local rivals Kidderminster on Saturday

March 12. Lions 2nds enjoyed a 29-24 victory over Sut-March 12. Lions 2nds enjoyed a 29-24 victory over Sutton Coldfield. The unbeaten under 14s produced their own St Valentine's Day Massacre by defeating Kidderminster in a friendly 60-10 and the Colts finished the weekend off with a 24-19 win over Bromsgrove in the first round of the North Midlands Colts Cup.

Next Thursday, Stourton Park hosts the European Police Rugby Cup tie between Great Britain and France. Kick off is 7pm and admission £10.

Fifth draw on trot, but a missed opportunity

STOURBRIDGE chess club had a STOURBRIDGE chess club had a quieter week with only two matches. The first was on Tuesday at Redditch in Worcester and District Division 2.

SCC entered the match with

SCC entered the match with a perfect played three won three record and Paul Sharratt, Sam Bradley, Jeremy Humphries and Colin Woodall all won to give Stourbridge another perfect score. The Birmingham Division 3 relegation battle was the focus for Wednesday when Shirley & Wythall visited for a four-pointer. Unfortunately, Stourbridge only managed to draw. This was SCC's fifth consecutive draw, but this was a missed opportunity.

fifth consecutive draw, but this was a missed opportunity.
Several Stourbridge players played in the Kidlington chess congress. The best performance came from Nick Arkell who won the major section for players graded under 180. He won his first four games and only needed to draw in the last round to win the section outright which he duly did. In the top section for players graded under 225, Jeremy Fallowfield finished 16th with two points out of a possible five. possible five.

possible five.

Junior Dan Arkell scored an
excellent win in the first round
against a higher graded player
in the minor section for players
graded under 120. He eventually
finished 38th with 1½ points.

Innished 38th with 1½ points.
The Arkell brothers played
in the open section of the 4NCL
FIDE rated congress. Keith finshed equal fourth on 3.5 out of a
possible five and Nick did well to score 50 per cent against higher

rated opponents.

In the minor section, Dan Arkell finished equal 18th with two

It's love-all in Valentine's tournament

IT was love-all as players took part in a Valentine's tournament at Wol-laston Lawn tennis Club.

Some 16 members took part last Saturday afternoon in a round robin tournament, with each match being of cight games duration

of eight games duration.

As a change to standard match play, the couples swapped partners after four of the eight games meaning that across the three-and-a-half-hour afternoon everyone played at least one match together.

least one match together.
All matches were played and each
player played a total of 56 games.
It was won by one of last year's
runners-up, Pam Cartwright for the
ladies, with John Hubery for the men. Runners-up on this occasion were Jane Fox and Dave Tranter.

For more details on the club email WLTC@outlook.com or visit www. wollastontennis.co.uk

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Eagles wing way to another final Page 39

Stourbridge push aside bottom team Page 39



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Davies has **Paralympics** in his sights

PARALYMPIAN Richard Davies has the Rio Olympics in his sights after shooting

his way back into form.

With the Games just a few months away, the Stourbridge marksman is setting himself the target of regaining his world Number One spot. His performances are already getting stronger as he bids to get back to the top of the worlding.

rankings.

At the end of January, Davies took part in the World Cup shooting competition in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, with more than 300 other disabled shooters from 30 different countries.

After more than an hour of total concentration, in heats of 30 degrees and above, Davies made it to the final, featuring the top eight scorers following

turing the top eight scorers, following the 60-shot match.

On entering the final, the shooters then all have a level score ahead of the next eight shots, after which the lowest score is eliminated.

Tied

Shot after shot the Great Britain shooter bypassed the others. Davies kept his nerve knowing he was in the top three and guaranteed to win a medal. Down to the last three athletes and a shoot-off was needed because it was a tied score with South Korean shooter Dongan Park, Davies shot a 10.4 and Park a 10.6, the gold going to De La Forest (France), silver to Park (Korea) and Davies securing the bronze.

Davies returned to the podium with a gold last weekend, scoring a record 632.6 and regaining his title as British Disabled Shooting Champion in the British Air Rifle competition at Bisley, Surrey.

hed Snooting Champion in the Brush Air Riffe competition at Bisley, Surrey. The 44-year-old's next competition is in Poland in April before the final team selection for Rio takes place in Hanover, Germany, in May.

Pottinger looking for Cradley to get off to flying start

CRADLEY boss Will Pottinger has called

on his side to lay down a marker early in their 2016 National League campaign.

The Heathens will kick-off their season with a double header against Belle Vue on Easter Monday, March 28.

They will also face local rivals Birthey will be a season with the season will be a season with the season will be a season with a season will be a season will be a season with a season will be a se

They will also face local rivals Bir-mingham at Perry Barr on April 20 in a meeting Pottinger is already viewing as a major opportunity to put one over on the reigning champions.

With a return to a play-off system in the third time return.

which a return to a play-on system in the third tier next season, Pottinger knows a fast start is not imperative. But he is keen to see them send a mes-sage out to their rivals to restore their reputation as the team to beat and build some momentum early in the campaign

some momentum early in the campaign.
"We usually have a pre-season challenge of something but we are straight
into the National League meetings this
year and we are excited to get started,"
Pottinger said.

"With the return to the play-offs it maybe isn't as important to get off to a good start.

'Having said that we are desperate to hit the ground running."

Celebrations as athletes race to victory



Division Three champions celebrate

Stourbridge 2 Colwyn Bay 0 STOURBRIDGE moved to sixth spot with two late goals - but the figure that really mattered

Leon Broadhurst made his magical

600th appearance for the club and a

special presentation was made to him at the end of the game.

The midfielder will have enjoyed other games more than this sometimes scrappy and bad-tempered Evo-Stik Premier affair.

pered Evo-Stik Premier affair.

But it remained quite an entertaining match, albeit a frustrating one for the Glassboys who toiled against 10 men for a breakthrough which didn't come until the 75th minute.

Stourbridge pressed from the start and their chances of victory looked greatly improved with a sending-off for the visitors on 18 minutes when Chrs Lait, on a mazy run, was impeded by Jordan Fagbola and he was dismissed with the referee deciding he had denied a goalscoring opportunity.

Advantage But Stourbridge couldn't take advantage right away, Hawley sending a volley over the bar and Justin Richards looping a header wide.

The vital opening goal eventually came on 75 minutes when Geddes' corner was met by Dan Scarr whose header lacked pace but found its way into the net through a crowd of players.

And the Glassboys finally managed to double the lead in injury time when substitute Drew Canavan produced a delightful ball for Ashley Vincent to slam home at the far post.

Said boss Gary Hackett: "Fair play to Colwyn Bay. They came to do a job and made it difficult, so it was a patience game and we had to wait.

"I'm delighted to get the three points because at this stage of the season all you can do is keep piling the points on and hope things go our way." Stourbridge were travelling to Nantwich Town

in the FA Trophy on Tuesday night – at the third time of asking following two postponements – with Scarr out for 10 days and Matt Dodd sus-

pended. **Stourbridge:** Gould, Green (Canavan 65), Scarr, Geddes (Whittall 78), Smilkle, Pierpoint, Billingham, Broadhurst, Hawley, Richards (Vincent 72), Lait. Subs not used: Hull, Price. Attendance: 479

was 600.

DUDLEY Kingswinford Running Club completed their final Birmingham and District Cross Country League fixture in Gloucester on Saturday. With a sizable lead at the top of the table only a disaster could have prevented the blue hoops from taking the title.

District Cross Country League fixture in Gloucester on Saturday.

District Cross Country League fixture in Gloucester on Saturday.

District Cross Country League fixture in Gloucester on Saturday.

**Perkins claimed 20th title in Gloucester on S

There was no relaxing around the four-lap course around Plock Court, though. With Nuneaton's Matt Amos taking victory in 35.44 Ben Foster led the hoops home in second place in 36.51 with Rob Meredith taking third in 36.58.

Matt Biggs claimed eighth place and James Wright finished 11th. Dave Norman and Stuart

BROAD SMILES

R BIG D

Perkins claimed 20th and 21st positions respec-

Perkins claimed 20th and 21st positions respectively to complete the A team but there was a procession of DK runners stacked up behind them. With the A team scoring a mere 65 points, victory was assured. In fact the B team would have also placed highly in third with DK sandwiching hosts Severn AC. This performance cemented DK's position at the top. DK's B team also picked up a championship trophy with 983 points. The ladies closed their season around a muddy field in Wolverhampton, finising 22nd of 34.

Innings over too quickly for Enville B

Hagley (130-5) beat Enville 'A' (87-2) by 43 runs

HAGLEY openers made a steady start against the Enville bowlers – Jo Lennon was run out for 17 after falling in a heap mid-wicket to the customary sympathy of both sides. Paul Morgan was also run

mid-wicket to the customary sympathy of both sides. Paul Morgan was also run out following some misunderstanding. John McDonnell, making his best score of the season and looking comfortable, continued to score with ease, while the remaining Hagley batsman went for quick runs, sacrificing their wickets to post a decent 130 for Enville to chase. The suicidal calling bug affected Enville too in their reply. Rhodri Parfitt was the first to go, out for 10 with the score on 29. Opener Matt Branch and Spencer Mann tried to hit the ball out of the hall through the back wall instead of working it to the angles. This was not productive and frustration built as they fell behind the scoring rate. Branch eventually retired but took too long for his 25. Credit though some fine bowling from Dan Giles returning 1-18 off three overs to keep Enville in check as they finished on only 87-2.

Cookley (97-5) beat Enville 'B' (25 all out) from the county of the county of the same strong spell from Tom Davies, three overs for 19, kept Enville in the game.

John Stanaway produced his best performance with 34 no but the remaining Cookley batsmen fell by the wayside, finishing on 97-5.

Making a disastrous start, Enville lost

ishing on 97-5.

issing on 97-3.

Making a disastrous start, Enville lost three wickets in the first two overs.

Cookley opening bowlers Dan Soley and Kevin Morrissey aided by some more calamitous running between the wickets accounted for the remainder of wickets accounted for the remainder of the Enville order in five overs.

Win lifts students above opposition

Penncroft 1 Team Dudley 2
TEAM Dudley recorded a vital win 2-1
win at Penncroft in West Midlands Division One. Goals from Myles Nettleford

vision One. Goals from Myles Nettleford and Alex Pinches enabled them to leap-frog their opposition. Dudley started well on a tricky pitch at Goodyear Pavilion. They went ahead on 11 minutes when Nettleford tapped home. The second came on 24 minutes, keeper Ben Czerepaninec pushing out Marc Lawrence's bobbling shot and

Pinches side-footing home.

James Hawthorne fouled Curtis Smith for a penalty converted by Omari Lee, but the students held on.

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Stourbridge boss Gary Hackett congratulates Leon Broadhurst on his 600th game for the club

DK see hopes of win go for a Burton

Burton 24 DK 15

A WIN over Dudley Kingswin-ford lifted Burton to fifth place in Midlands One West. The game was very much in the bal-ance at half-time.

DK took the lead with a try, but the conversion attempt went wide. Burton replied with a try from Alfie Grant. Archer kicked the conversion and Burton had the lead.

DK piled on the pressure and

hit the post with a penalty. The visitors were dominant at this point and produced an excellent try, converted, to give them a 12-7 lead.

The lead changed hands again when Josh Cartwright touched

down for Burton, Archer con-DK edged back in front with

a penalty before half-time but those 14 points were all they could muster.

Burton kept a second half clean sheet but landed an Archer penalty and a Nick Oxley try, converted by Archer.

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